# Maine Farmer.

Agriculture, Mechanic Arts, Literature, News, &c.

HOMAN & BADGER, Publishers. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars, in Advance.

Vol. XLIII. Augusta, Maine, Saturday Morning, December 12, 1874. No. 2.

## Maine Farmer.

**S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.**

### Agricultural Notices.

**Meetings and Exhibitions to Occur.**

MAINE POULTRY ASSOCIATION:—Second Exhibition at City Hall, Portland, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1875. Entries for competition close Jan. 9th. Fred Fox, Secretary, Portland.

PENOBSCOT COUNTY POULTRY ASSOCIATION:—Fourth Exhibition at City Hall, Bangor. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 15th, 16th and 17th, W. S. Duren, Secretary, Bangor.

MAINE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY:—Semi-Annual meeting at Augusta, Wednesday, January 20th, 1875.

MAINE STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY:—Winter Meeting for Discussions and the reading of Papers, at Augusta, Wednesday and Thursday, January 20th and 21st, 1875.

ORONO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, at the College Chapel, Orono, Tuesday, March 23d, 1875.

WEST WINTHROP FARMERS' CLUB:—Regular Meetings, Tuesday evenings.

EASTERN KENNEBEC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY:—Annual meeting at Week's Mills, Saturday Dec. 26th, 1874.

ANDROSCOGGIN AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:—Annual meeting at City Rooms, Lewiston, Saturday, Jan. 2d, 1875.

### Agriculture at the Centennial Exposition.

In the schedule or plan which the Managers of the International Centennial Exhibition of 1876 have decided upon carrying out, agriculture receives a conspicuous place in the first department of the exposition—that relating to materials in their unwrought condition. Groups in this department are assigned to agricultural products used as food, such as grains, roots, vegetables, fruits, and dried vegetables and fruits of all kinds; to fruit trees, ornamental trees and shrubs, and to all forest products; to animals and live stock; to animal products used as food, and to preserved meats, vegetables and fruits. In other departments groups have been assigned to dairy furniture and fittings; to machines, tools and implements used in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; to examples of farm arrangement and management, systems of planting, draining and harvesting, maps of farms, models of buildings, and to landscape gardening or the artistic laying out and planting of grounds, parks and gardens. These different groups or sections will, if properly contributed to, comprehend a full and complete representation of our agricultural interests in all departments, and the commissioners have certainly acted wisely in devoting so much space to agricultural practices and products. In no department of industry have greater advances been made during the past hundred years of our Nation, than in the art and practice of agriculture. From the wooden plow which tore open the earth, to the clean cutting steel plow of to-day; from the scythe made by the town blacksmith, hung in a snath made from a crooked stick from the forest, to the mowing and reaping machines of this year of grace 1874; from the small, nurly, ordinary animal of our forefathers to our magnificent thoroughbreds, and from the old-time practices to those where science is laid under contribution to aid the most ordinary and common-place work of the farmer—is a transition full of interest and crowded with important results. It is fitting therefore that in an exposition designed to show the advance and progress of our Nation in all its vital and important industries, the great science and art of agriculture should receive just recognition. It is to be hoped that an effort will be made to gather together the ancient tools, machines and appliances for performing farm work used in our forefathers' day—and exhibit them side by side with the improved and labor saving implements now to be found on every well managed farm. Such an exhibition and comparison, would afford a most interesting study and show at a glance the rapid strides of improvement which have been made for the benefit of the farmers' interest.

We hope the agricultural organizations of our State will early take proper steps to have the agriculture of Maine suitably represented at this great exhibition of the Nation. The State Board of Agriculture has already taken the initiatory steps in this direction, and at its late meeting appointed a committee of which Mr. Z. A. GILBERT, the President of the Board, is Chairman, to make a report, submitting a plan of operations in connection with our State Centennial Board, by which a suitable and proper representation of our great agricultural resources, capabilities and practices—an outline of which may be foreshadowed by the schedule of divisions above given—may be made at Philadelphia in 1876. We are sure Maine will not be behind her sister States in enthusiasm as well as actual work for this great event, and as a part of this work we bespeak an earnest interest from all our agricultural organizations in having our agriculture well exhibited.

### Presumpscot Driving Park.

The managers of the Presumpscot Driving Association, feeling the need of better accommodations than were afforded at the old Forest City Park in Westbrook, purchased in September last an eligible lot of land of about thirty acres, situated in Deering one and a half miles from the city of Portland. Work was at once commenced upon the same, and in order to make it of a permanent character, the entire lot was thoroughly drained, over eight thousand feet of tile and stone drain having been put down. The track has been laid out and built in the most approved manner, one-half mile in length, sixty feet wide on the home stretch and forty feet on the rear stretch. From the thorough drainage of the ground, and the manner in which the track is constructed, it will be hard and compact, and at the same time easy, elastic and always dry. The ground is supplied with an abundance of pure water—and a large portion of the Park will be reserved for the exhibition of all classes of live stock at agricultural fairs, while ample space has been reserved for the purpose of a base ball ground, which it is understood has been given to the Resolute Club of Portland for their use. Although the track has been completed this season, and the chief work done, so that the Park will be in readiness for the June meeting of the Association—there is considerable work yet to be done to complete the same, which will be entered upon early in the spring. This will consist of the building of fences, the judges', reporters' and "grand" stands, and other "finishing touches." A new road from the entrance to the Park to the horse railroad has been built, a distance of only forty rods, while the Park is close to the depot on the Maine Central and Portland and Rochester Railroads at Woodford's Corner. The cost of the land without improvements was $17,000, and we learn that the authorized capital stock of the Association $25,000, has all been taken. The situation of Portland is an admirable one for purposes of a great fair, and it is designed to make Presumpscot Park one of the leading courses and fair grounds in the country, and as fairs at this point have always proved successful, there is now a better prospect than ever, in this respect, for the future. Everybody who knows the promptness, ability and squareness with which Col. Geo. W. Ricker has managed some of the largest fairs and exhibitions ever held in the State, will be glad to know that he has been chosen Superintendent of the Park. He is popular everywhere, is widely known, and goes in for square dealing every time. The Presumpscot Association is composed of gentlemen of wealth and character, who are largely interested in breeding and training of horses, and who are also among the leading business men of Portland—and they have taken hold of this enterprise determined to make it a success. A list of officers of the Association will be found in another place.

### A Home Nursery.

Late in November we made a very brief inspection of the nursery of the Brothers Bowman situated in the town of Sidney (North Sidney P. O.) in this county. These young farmers have been engaged in growing trees to some extent, for the past six or seven years, and prompted by the increasing demand for their stock, they have during the past year or two made the business more of a specialty and have in consequence increased their sales. Their nursery now comprises some four acres, on which they have growing about forty thousand apple and two thousand pear trees, (all grown from seed) with three thousand seedling trees from four to six feet high. The apple trees are from one to four years old, and five thousand are grafted. The trees are whip-grafted at the collar, making but one tree to one root, the sorts grafted being the Nodhead, Bellflower, R. I. Greening, Tompkins Co. King, Northern Spy, Talman Sweet, Porter, Duchess of Oldenburg, Red Astrachan, Pound Sweet, Summer Sweet, Sops o' Wine. The Baldwin is found unreliable when grafted near the ground. The seeds are planted in beds the first year, transplanted to the nursery rows the second year, the tap-root being removed. The soil is a gravelly loam, dry, naturally well drained, and the location is not liable to the accumulation of snow in drifts. Fifty ox loads or twenty-five cords of fine, well rotted manure is applied to the acre in the fall, thoroughly worked in, and the soil cultivated much deeper than for other crops. Mr. Bowman informs us that the snow, on level situations, is not generally damaging to nursery trees—small trees, say those two feet high, seldom suffer to any extent. In the winter of 1872-3 trees four and five feet high that were entirely covered with snow, on level portions of the nursery came out whole—on situations having a slight descent almost every tree was crushed down. The success of these gentlemen with pear seedlings has been good, not a single tree having been affected with leaf blight the past season. The sales from this nursery are quick and have been increasing, all the trees being ordered as fast as grown, and in fact many grafted trees one year old, have been sent out in large numbers. Over one thousand trees were last year sent to parties in Canada. We note the success of these young farmers with pleasure, and trust they will be able to demonstrate that a nursery of native grown trees can be made pay in Maine.

### Farmers' Meetings.

The winter is the season for meetings and conventions of farmers and agricultural organizations, and from now until the long days of March warn the farmer that he must again go to work, thinking and talking will be the programme. From all sections of the country there comes to our table announcements of meetings to be held, with the names of speakers engaged and topics to be discussed, that farmers may be "thinking up" in order to take an active part in their proceedings when they occur. Those in which our own readers are most interested are the meetings of the New Hampshire Board of Agriculture, which commenced the first of the month and will continue to be held throughout the months of January and February, meetings having already been announced to be held in some twelve or fifteen towns. All information in relation to these meetings will be cheerfully given by addressing James O. Adams, Esq., Sec'y., Concord, N. H. The Connecticut Board of Agriculture—of which Mr. T. S. Gold is the able Secretary—will hold a three days' session at Woodstock on the 16th to 18th inst., milk and dairy management forming the chief topic of the lectures and discussions. Efficient speakers have been secured, among them Mr. L. B. Arnold of New York, and Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant of Massachusetts, one of the leading contributors of the MAINE FARMER.

### Editorial Notes.

We learn that at the recent exhibition of the Franklin Institute, at Philadelphia, a silver medal and certificate of merit were awarded the Planet Jr., Combined Drill and Wheel Hoe, being with one exception the only silver medal awarded in the Agricultural Implement Department. This hoe is manufactured by S. L. Allen & Co. Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. A. Shepherd of Sidney leaves at our office fine specimens of Baldwins and New York Russets, for which he will please accept our thanks.

Having been interested in a statement made by Dr. North, in a late conversation with us, respecting the color of the skin of Jerseys as an indication of their butter producing qualities, we requested him to write out his views upon the subject for our columns. He has kindly done so, and his remarks which appear elsewhere will possess a wide interest. Dr. North is one of our most intelligent writers he weighs a subject carefully, and never jumps at conclusions.

At the Convention of the Agricultural Societies in Waldo county held last week, Peter W. Ayer, Esq., of Freedom, was elected a member of the Board of Agriculture for a term of three years. Mr. Ayer has formerly served most acceptably in the same capacity, is one of the leading farmers in that county and has for years been identified with agricultural improvement. He will make an active and useful member.

## Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Sea-side Sheep Husbandry.

Does the sheep husbandry of the sea-side differ from the sheep husbandry of the inland? Certainly it does, and the prospective importance of the island and sea-coast sheep husbandry of Maine, is little conceived and less appreciated.

To begin at the beginning, the length of the shore line in a direct course, or nearly direct, is about 230 miles, but including the sinuosities of the shore, is estimated at about 3,000 miles, or equal to the distance from Boston to Liverpool. Outlying this vast extent of sea-shore, are numerous islands, some of which can boast of more square acres than can an average of inland towns. While the whole length of coast line from Kittery Point to Quoddy Head, is thick set with islands, there are perhaps, as many acres of island surface within the limits of Hancock county, as in all the other maritime counties combined. The island area of Hancock county, has been variously estimated. The most reliable estimate accessible to the writer, is from the manuscript of a "Survey of Hancock County," in preparation for the press, which fixes the area at 100,000 square acres, so that the island acreage of the State can be put down at 200,000 square acres, or equal to 7 per cent. of the entire area of the improved land of the State.

In so far as actual tests have been made, their showing is that each acre affords a sufficient pasturage for one sheep, which, if so, the islands of Maine can carry annually 200,000 sheep, or a number nearly equal to one-half of the present number in the State. By this showing, there is on the islands of Maine, a range sufficient in size to summer 200,000 sheep, capable of yielding a gross yearly revenue of $320,000 for wool, and $700,000 for mutton, or $1,000,000 for both, and all this too, without any *extra* for breed, management, or *sensible* legislation.

Our bigoted legislation is doing more to dam (with an "n" to it) up the avenues of success in sheep husbandry, whether sea-shore or inland—than all other causes resolved into one. The farmers of the State may continue a "fearful looking for" this same ignorant and ruinous legislation, so long as they can be duped into voting for petty partizans and political spouters.

The peculiar breed of island sheep, which includes most of the flocks along the mainland coast line, in sea-shore parlance, is known as the "Woodstock breed." The appellation of breed is a misnomer, the class of sheep being grades, crosses of the Merino and Leicester, and Saxon and Leicester. This gives a cross, having—in the peculiar influence of an island atmosphere—long, coarse, and heavy fleeces, which, when fully grown, gives an appearance of extraordinary size to the sheep. Coast-wise sheep owners are strongly *woven* to this grade of wool, and it is like pulling teeth to eradicate this preference, and open the way for fleeces of a closer or finer fibre. Notwithstanding it is patent that the fleeces of coarse-wooled sheep are open, and instead of shedding rain, conduct it direct to the skin, so that at every rain storm, the sheep are as wet as "drowned rats," and their long wool keeps them so for days, so that on shelterless islands or ranges, they suffer severely with influenza.

As mutton producers, these sea-side, coarse-wooled sheep, are subject to that irrevocable law of nature, that in no one breed are all the excellences combined. Superiority of merit in one tract, is at its cost in others. The Jersey excels in butter—the South Down in luscious mutton, and all the sophistry in the realm can't controvert it. So the weight of wool is at the cost of weight of flesh. It is true that island sheep come up fat, these long-wooled ones, very fat, as some count fatness; but it is a "gob" of fat, and then *fatless*, that is, the mutton tallow is laid on the outside of the carcass, like the oil-pelt of a seal, between the skin and flesh. The tallow is not interlaid with the flesh, but is coated in copious thickness over it. It makes a savory dish for the tawny-yellow Esquimaux, but for the fair or florid Caucasian, it's too much *grease*.

A feature in sea-side sheep husbandry, and one of no inconsiderable importance, as affecting the cost of wintering, is that the ocean atmosphere tempers *soft* the winter's severity, so that the pasture "close time," comes later in the fall, and earlier in the spring, and thus the maritime winter is shortened in at both ends.

The barn feeding season, usually, is quite one-half less than that in Aroostook, Northern Penobscot, Piscataquis and Franklin counties. Most interior farmers say, "the hay for six sheep will winter a cow." The writer—a sea-side sheep keeper—will agree to winter ten sheep, with the "hay for a cow." Upon some of the seaward islands, except in winters unusally severe, sheep live, thrive, and grow fat, with no other food than the sea-weed, which they themselves harvest, and such as is thrown up by ocean waves.

The salt water sheep owners, living upon the "main," where the winters are not as open as upon the islands, and consequently must barn feed, are beginning to discover a feeding value in fish for their sheep. The time is not far in the future, when a lucrative branch of harbor fishing will be, *fishing for sheep*, catching, and curing inedible fishes for sheep-feed.

I wish your thousands of sheep-owning readers could step into my barn to-morrow morning, and see my South Downs *breakfast* on porgie chum. SEA-SIDE.

For the Maine Farmer.

### How I Grow Potatoes.

In your paper of Nov. 21st, I notice an experiment in seeding potatoes, which I think is erroneous in its deductions and calculated to mislead your readers. In the first place, 2 1-2 bushels cut seed, is not in proportion to 9 bushels of whole potatoes. We calculate one-half as much seed cut as we plant whole, would have given sixty-nine bushels of potatoes from half the seed that produced forty-nine. Planted whole, this would have given 20 bushels, which at 50 cents would be $10.00, saving 4 1-2 bushels of seed equal to $2.50, and giving $12.50 in favor of cut seed. I have been experimenting in cutting seed and have harvested this year, 350 bushels of nice potatoes, from 10 bushels of seed, planted on one acre of land. We selected our largest potatoes and cut one or two eyes on a piece, not planting the seed ends. We plant in drills about eight inches apart, taking worn out grass land that would not produce one-half ton of hay to the acre; plow late in the fall and top dress in the spring with green horse manure. In this way we have raised the last five years all our potatoes at a cost not exceeding ten cents per bushel and averaging more than three hundred bushels to the acre. The next year we follow with wheat, and seed down to grass, top-dressing the grass. In this way we renovate our grass lands and do not put potatoes on the same piece but once in ten years.

*Patten.* J. B. LESLIE.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Roupe in Fowls.

At this season of the year more than any other, owners of poultry are troubled by the disease known as roupe. Wright says: "It is *the* disease of poultry, and as such is to be most dreaded." In the November number of the *Poultry World*, C. C. Plaisted of Hartford, Conn., gives his method of treating this disease, and having tried it with good success it seems to me worth calling to the attention of those interested in order that they may get the good results others have. Mr. Plaisted says: "If any of the fowls breathe hard, snap their heads, or run at the nostrils, give a teaspoonful of castor oil. If their nostrils are stopped up and they make a whistling sound or open their mouths to breathe, make a strong suds of castile soap and luke warm water, and with a small sponge wash out the mouth and throat, clean out the nostrils, then give the oil." I advise those troubled with this disease to try this remedy. T.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Some Useful Varieties of Sweet Apples.

In a former article, an appeal was made for a more extensive culture of sweet apples, and it was proposed to speak of some useful varieties.

For market the principal product should be of the late autumn and winter varieties. For domestic animals those of all seasons are in order. As an article of diet, a succession should be provided, so that from the latter end of summer to the time when the strawberry should supply all needs of fruit, the table may be constantly supplied with fresh and crisp sweet apples, raw, baked, coddled, or otherwise cooked according to the habits and taste of the family.

FIRST. THE AUGUST SWEET BOUGH is a large showy apple, fair, yellow and handsome. The tree appears to be above an average for hardiness, and is a constant but moderate bearer. An early apple so large as this must needs be light, and it soon becomes dry, when it is fit only for cooking, and not long good for that. Judging from a limited experience, observation and information, I think it bears migration very well. But on the whole its culture is to be recommended only to those who can afford to indulge a fancy at the expense of utility, since there are better sorts.

SECOND. Better than the forgoing and perhaps a little earlier, is the Summer Sweeting, by some called the SIDNEY SWEETING. I think it is not named in any book, or by any conventional authority. It is said to have originated in Sidney or the vicinity. The fruit is less than half the size of the Sweet Bough, long tapering from the shoulder, yellow, juicy, crisp and sweet. The tree is a strong, upright grower, hardy and productive. Season from 10th of August to 10th of September or later. I think it fit for general culture.

THIRD. HIGH-TOP SWEETING. This is a September apple, running through the whole month. It is supposed to have originated in Plymouth county, and from other parts of Massachusetts, whence it was brought by many of the early settlers of this State after the revolution, and probably before, and thus extensively disseminated through the older portions of the State. The old trees planted in those days are now found on many of the farms, which were hewn out of the forest during those periods of migration hitherward. Apples of this kind were exhibited at the late fair of the Pomological Society by Mr. Z. A. Gilbert, which grew on trees that were brought from the Old Colony by Mr. Elisha Sylvester upon his back, probably more than eighty years ago. Mr. Charles Sylvester of Greene, a grandson of Elisha, now owns and occupies the farm where they were planted, and still survive. The vigor and longevity of the tree is sufficiently attested by these facts. It is a fair and constant bearer. Under high culture I think it is an abundant bearer. A large tree in the orchard, planted by Mr. Benjamin Alden of Greene, who was one of the pioneers, was in vigorous bearing forty years ago. I think it is still living. Mr. Lewis Gilbert is now the lord of that manor. It has probably borne a thousand bushels of apples, whether thousands, I know not.

The fruit is of golden yellow, fair and almost always perfect upon a healthy tree: medium in size. Under good culture it is of large medium size; but under neglect it is small, and the color fades to a pale straw-color. It is of firmer flesh than the Summer Sweet, yet tender, very sweet and, though not so juicy as the last named variety, it is, I think, for all uses considered together, more desirable, and comes in and holds out later.

The Summer Sweeting is sometimes miscalled High Top Sweeting. This is a misnomer, which ought to be carefully avoided by nursery-men and fruit growers, since both are of uncommon excellence, and the misnomer is likely to make confusion and disappointment. In the West, the High-Top Sweeting is called *Sweet June*. This is one of Thomas's synonyms.

The last two apples described ought to be in every fall collection for family use. But if one is so situated that the culture of all kinds for summer and early autumn for market is profitable, the former of the two is perhaps preferable for that purpose.

I am acquainted with no sweet apple named by the pomological writers, which fills the period next following that of the High Top Sweeting. Most neighborhoods either rely upon a better seedling or some improved variety of local repute, or go without any. I shall name the best for general use, that I am acquainted with.

The ALDEN SWEET is an apple, so far as I am informed, first known in the orchard of Mr. Benjamin Alden before named. I think one or more trees of that kind, planted by his hand, are still in bearing condition. He was a Connecticut man, and had the best collection, and almost the only collection of grafted apples in all that region in his time. Mr. Lewis Gilbert, his son-in-law, doubtless could tell us how he obtained his trees. The apple in question took the name of Alden Sweet, because no other name was known. I am not aware that it is mentioned in any of the catalogues, or whether it had a more ancient name abroad.

The fruit is large medium to larger, green, becomes yellowish green when fully matured, broad and flattish, sometimes slightly ribbed near the calyx, fair, handsome, tender and good. It is a mid-autumn apple, good to pare. To those who choose to dry sweet apples for cider apple sauce, it will be useful. In Pittsfield, grafted upon a youngish tree, I found it to be a vigorous grower and hardy. As to its character for bearing and for a more exact description of the apple, its history and its merits, I beg leave to refer the public to Mr. Gilbert or his son, who I think, would do a public service by writing what they know of it. In my next, I shall speak of sweet apples which are adapted for winter use. W. G.

For the Maine Farmer.

### The Standard of Excellence in Poultry.

I notice through the papers, that the Maine Poultry Association has made another bold push. I refer to the action of the Directors, in giving notice that judges will judge fowls at the next exhibition only by American Standard of Excellence of May 1871. I am much pleased to see this action, as I think it was needed. Many amateur breeders that bought the new standard of excellence, and paid $1.00 for a pamphlet that ought to sell for 30c., find that they have no new standard, but merely the first volume, issued long since, and that a revised edition will be ready some time in the future; hence the rule of the Directors releases the Association judges and exhibitors from the uncertainty that exists, in regard to the New or Buffalo Standard.

I do not wish to cast any reflections upon the gentlemen connected with this new standard, for their task is by no means an easy one, and must require time and patience to accomplish it. I do however, question the way the National Association is formed, and think it must prove a source of trouble and inconvenience to breeders and associations for several reasons.

The Association is made up of such as will pay $3.00 or $10.00 for an annual or life membership. This alone will cause, even if it has not already caused, trouble. Of course the State of New York is the grand centre of the poultry interest, and it is quite probable that from the *immediate* vicinity of the meeting of the Association, members would come quite largely; hence the National Association might soon become sectional, and possibly corrupt. For any man from Maine might become a member, no matter what his disposition was as a breeder, and as but few would be likely to become members from this State, of course he would represent the State in a manner to help perfect a standard which might dash the hopes of breeders who had honestly and faithfully endeavored to produce fowls of excellence. Again, this association might be controlled in the interest of a few, and thereby feather and shape the birds to conform to their yards; which of course would establish a price. There are also other objections that can be named, but I think the above will suffice to show that the present scope of the organization is wrong. I may suggest a way to properly and fairly make a standard, and form a "National Poultry Fanciers' Congress;" made up of representatives of each State, elected by State and County Associations, for their known ability and integrity, and paid by the associations electing them; so that each State will be fully represented, however remote. I hope the poultry breeders of Maine will give their views upon the subject, and fully sustain our motto DIRIGO, by putting forward some movement that will prove to be for the best good of the greatest number. Let us hear from all our breeders and prominent fanciers upon this subject through the FARMER. NOW-AND-THEN.

For the Maine Farmer.

### The Color of the Skin of Jerseys.

In compliance with a request made to us to write an article on "the color of the skin of Jerseys, as indicating their milking qualities," we submit the following:

We wrote Col. Waring on the subject some time ago, giving our experience and views in the matter. Our letter was answered in the "Ogden Farm Papers," in *American Agriculturist* for Sept. 1874. Col. Waring, however, neither attempted to refute or substantiate our theory offered in explanation of certain phenomena.

It is a well known fact that the skin of many Jerseys is very yellow, while that of others is white or pink in hue. The yellow skin is looked upon by the majority as the indication of the color of the butter produced by this breed. Some even go so far as to make it the almost sole consideration in the selection of an animal. We have owned and seen animals exhibiting the yellow hide in all its perfection, that made very yellow butter; we have also possessed similar animals that produced light colored butter. We are also familiar with instances of pink skinned cows yielding yellow butter. If then the skin does not give reliable information as to the color of the butter, where shall we look? The amount and color of the secretion of the ear will be found an almost infallible guide.

Now the conclusions that we have deduced from the above experience are these. We believe that the color of Jersey butter depends more upon the amount, than any variation in color, of the yellow secretion in the milk. The larger the quantity, the deeper and richer colored will be the butter as well as the ear and skin secretion. We have noticed that cows producing very high colored butter have a large amount of the ear secretion, in many instances the whole internal surface being covered with a thick, orange colored, oily matter. On the other hand, so far as our observation goes, the light colored butter makers present a scanty, thin and consequently pale yellow secretion, in some cases found only at the bottom of the ear.

Our theory is this: Every animal has the power of secreting a certain amount of this yellow pigment. If the quantity is sufficiently large, secretion will take place freely in the mammary glands, the ear and skin. If, however, the production is limited, the tendency may be wholly toward the milk glands and ear, causing the animal to exhibit a pink hide; or the skin may be almost the sole avenue of escape from the body, the butter, in consequence, being light colored; or there may be so little coloring matter evolved, as to furnish none to the skin and a very scanty supply to the ear and milk.

In examining a Jersey cow, in order to form an opinion in regard to the color of her butter, we would inspect the ear. Whether the skin corresponded in color or not, would be a consideration of minor importance in our estimation. It is a lamentable fact that many of the Jerseys have become light colored butter makers, so that it is necessary to be very careful in selecting, if high color is sought. This we think has been brought about by breeding solely to solid colors. The evil, however, can be remedied by proper care and selection in breeding. J. W. NORTH, JR., M. D.

*East Jefferson.*

For the Maine Farmer.

### Rambling Notes--No. 8.

**Lumbering on Eastern Waters.**

This is a season of comparative quiet among lumbermen on the Cherryfield and Machias waters. The talk now is that not more than one-half or two-thirds the usual amount of lumber will be cut this winter; so that many of the strong, active men whose winter quarters for many years have been in the forest, will now have the privilege of enjoying their own firesides with their families. This reduction in lumbering throws many teams as well as men out of employment, and droves of oxen are being bought up at 25 to 33 per cent. lower than last season. Hay is plenty at $10 to $12.

**Wild Game.**

While other business is dull, hunters are having brisk times after deer on this first snow. I met one man going to market with two nice ones which he shot in one day, for which he expected to receive $25 to $30; and another hunter a little later in the day was dragging one home through the snow, (by a rope in his nose,) which he had just shot one mile from the road. Being quite plenty, a good hunter finds the business both profitable and enjoyable. Large quantities of partridges are also secured for the market.

**The Season.**

November—sometimes called the "suicidal month," from the more frequent cases of suicides committed by those who are inclined to the "blues," or given to despondent feelings during this gloomy season of rain and mud—has just left us, and we can hardly rejoice at its exit, as it has indeed dealt kindly with us. Sunny skies and mild weather have prevailed most of the time, while the absence of continued stormy and foggy weather, with muddy or rough-frozen roads, is in striking contrast with last season. But little time has been lost by farmers, shipbuilders, or those who have been engaged in out-door labor.

**Shipping Apples to Eastern Maine.**

Among the supplies which are shipped to this eastern part of the State, apples are now plenty. At East Machias I was told that three small vessel loads had recently been brought in from Portsmouth, in bulk. Those which I noticed were quite mellow—in good condition for present use, but not for winter—selling at $2.50 to $2.87 per barrel, the purchaser furnishing his own barrel. Most of the apples shipped to these seaport towns are from Boston, Portsmouth or Portland, and quite a large portion of them are cheap apples, windfalls, bruised or wormy; but few are as firm and highly colored as our Kennebec apples. Baldwins are better known and more abundant in market than any other variety.

**The "Wild Crab" as a Stock.**

One of your subscribers at East Machias showed me his young orchard of "Wild Crab" trees, from a lot of 5000 imported from France, and distributed by Wm. Freeman, Jr., of Cherryfield. This lot, set last spring, is now looking well, the wood remarkably bright and firm. I hope we may hear through the FARMER from other lots set in this and Hancock County. Query:—Cannot the same variety of stock be found in this country, or grown cheaper than it can be imported? S. N. T.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Kindness to Domestic Animals.

Every person who keeps neat stock should treat them with as good care as they would like to receive themselves. Though the cows cannot conveniently enjoy the comforts of a good fire, the barns can be kept tight and warm, and the cattle when let out of the barn, in cool weather, should enjoy the sunny side of a building or have a cattle shed open to the south, to protect them from the cold, northerly blasts. Dumb beasts appreciate kindness as much as the human family. I have had many cows, but never had but one that would not come at my call, or follow me to and from the pasture. That one when a calf, was dropped in the woods, and remained there for ten days, and although I kept her till she was six years old, she always remained wild and unmanageable. M.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Practical Notes.

**Waste Manures.**

Let us consider some of the things that need looking after to prevent waste of fertilizing materials. As we ride about the country, how few barns we see with shelter provided for the manure thrown from the tie-ups. Often it is thrown under the eaves, where the rains and water from melting snow wash and leach it till much of the valuable properties of the manure are washed out of it. If not practicable to construct a cellar for the manure, a covering in the way of a shed, open at the sides, so as to readily back a cart under, may be constructed with but little cost comparatively. We know, for we built one, and found it a great convenience for sheltering the manure and purposes of shelter in summer. The majority of farmers do not put forth that decided effort to make the most of the manure supply within their precincts as they might. One needs to keep his eyes open for these things, as well as for the main chances in a good trade. How many farmers have made particular arrangements for saving all the liquid manure from their stable, by providing an ample supply of bedding for their stock? Dried muck is probably best for this purpose, but if you can't get muck get the next best. Leaves make good bedding for stock, but their absorptive properties are not so good as other materials of less manurial value. Saw dust is a great deal better than nothing, for its absorptive properties are good, while for some heavy lands it will be found beneficial as an ameliorator in the division of particles, rendering the soil less compact when applied. Saw dust from resinous woods is less valuable than that from hard wood, though Bossoungault says that 260 pounds of pine saw dust contains as much nitrogen as 100 pounds of stable manure, which may be a fact, but we should choose the manure every time.

**Feed Economically.**

Franklin said, "A penny saved is two pence clear," and so it is, and farmers can make money in feeding economically, as well as in growing crops, as wasted fodder is money thrown away. With many farmers, one-third of the entire fodder of the farm is wasted by over-feeding at irregular hours, or by carelessness in allowing it to get under the feet of stock, when it is fit only for bedding.

**Don't Dry up the Heifers too Early.**

Heifers intended for the dairy, should be milked the first year after coming in, to within five or six weeks before calving, as they will be likely to run dry about the same time in after years. For this reason, the milking of such should not be entrusted to careless hands. The difference in value of a cow that goes dry three weeks or three months, is the difference resulting from attention to this point. We have thought it an advantage to have heifers come in on grass, say early in the month of June, when feed is good, thus stimulating the lacteal organs to greater capacity for secreting milk and the habit be established at the onset. By milking closely that year, the value of the future cow is greatly enhanced. FRYE, JR.

For the Maine Farmre.

### Information about Apples.

In a late FARMER, S. Wasson asked for information regarding some of the characteristics of certain apples. As this is starting just such queries as many orchardists would gladly see answered in the FARMER, I feel like contributing my mite of experience to the fund which it is hoped will soon be forthcoming. I have rejected the Ribston Pippin from lack of productiveness, after watching it for twenty years, not only in Kennebec but other parts of the State. I think the Baldwin will produce twice as many apples in ten years from setting.

The Red Astrachan is a strong, healthy grower but is liable to over-bear in alternate years. I have one graft which gives too many and too small apples, while a young tree not allowed to bear to its full capacity is giving us a few large and highly colored apples. I would advise to thin out the first crop on young trees, and think high cultivation will suit them. I have never had any trouble in getting good growth and fair crops from the Gravenstein after transplanting. The Tetoffsky apple has made but little growth with me for two years after starting, which I attributed to the location (close to the stump of an old cherry tree), but the tree seems to be quite healthy.

Now will not some of the zealous orchardists in different parts of the State give the FARMER their experience in cultivating the Black Oxford, Nodhead and Yellow Bellflower? I find many in the eastern part of the State who handle fruit are sadly deficient in its nomenclature. You will find some half dozen kinds of red apples (early or late) called Baldwins at the shops in some of the sea-port towns, while the hardest name for a lot of pretty fair looking western apples, was "Rams-horn." S. N. T.

For the Maine Farmer.

### A Little Cross-Examination.

In the MAINE FARMER of Oct. 31st, is a statement giving the yield of wheat raised the past season by Mr. F. H. Grey of Morrill. Your readers may not have noticed that the yield given is *enormous*, being 91 1-2 bushels from six rods more than one and one half acres, or at the rate of nearly SIXTY BUSHELS to the acre. Now, I am aware that this statement is carefully made and well fortified—the names of the men who threshed and measured it, and of those who measured the land being given—but after all, I don't believe sixty bushels of wheat has ever been grown on one acre of land in Maine! I am satisfied there must be a mistake somewhere, either in the land, or the yield, or both—and I want to ask the writer of that statement to give us more positive evidence. I have raised fifty-six bushels of Lost Nation wheat myself this season, but not having accurately measured the land, cannot say the amount. We who read the papers, must hold writers to a strict account for their statements.

*Sidney.* CHAS. C. HAMLEN.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Agricultural Intelligence.

**Meteorological Observations.**

An abstract of the Meteorological Observations taken at the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, for the month of November, 1874; by PROF. M. C. FERNALD.

Lat. 44° 53' 10" N. Lon. 68° 38' 57" W.

Altitude above the sea, 134 feet.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mean temperature, | | 32.66 |
| Maximum " | | 54.7 |
| Minimum " | | 5.2 |
| Mean of warmest day, | (5th,) | 47.5 |
| Mean of coldest day, | (22d,) | 13.8 |
| Mean per centage of cloudiness. | | .49 |
| Am't rain or melted snow in guage, | | 3.06in. |
| Am't of snow, | | 10.00in. |

Direction and force of winds:—N. W. & W., .46; S. W. & S., .37; S. E. & E., .07; N. E. & N., .10.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mean height of barometer in inches, | | 29.922 |
| Maximum " | " | 30.406 |
| Minimum " | " | 29.024 |
| Mean force of vapor sufficient to sustain a column of mercury in height, | | .158in. |
| Mean humidity of the atmosphere, | | .80 |

The month was 7 1-2° warmer than November 1873.

**About Apples—Answer to Enquiry.**

In reply to Mr. Wasson concerning the Ribston Pippin, I would say that while its quality is unsurpassed, it is deficient in quantity. I have raised it for many years and find it a shy bearer. I can get more apples and more dollars from one Baldwin tree than from a whole row of Ribston Pippins.

*East Dixmont.* W. B. F.

**A Good Acre of Wheat.**

I raised the present season thirty-three and one-half bushels of wheat on one acre, (of the Lost Nation variety) threshing measure, every bushel rounded. The ground was broke up in 1873, and planted to corn and potatoes—three-fourths to corn, the other fourth to potatoes. No manure was used except in hill; yard manure for corn and from the barn window for potatoes. In the spring of 1874 I spread on 20 loads of manure and plowed it in, no other fertilizer being used. The amount of seed sown, two bushels.

*Avon.* THOMAS VINING.

**Togus Milk Record—Correction.**

Please correct an error in my table as printed in your paper of Dec. 5th. Itzehoe's milk for the year weighed 7,811 lbs., and not 4,811 as you have it. By a singular coincidence the same mistake was made last year in her record but I did not then think it worth while to correct it, as I supposed readers would see the mistake when they came to the average quantity made by each breed. But now I should say it ought to be corrected, in justice to the Holsteins. The latter do not appear as well as they should, because one of them has been farrow, therefore they cannot bear any further drawback.

*Togus Farm.* WM. S. TILTON.

**Androscoggin Agricultural and Horticultural Society.**

The members of the Androscoggin Agricultural and Horticultural Society are informed that their annual meeting for choice of officers and the transaction of other important business pertaining to the society, will be held in the City Rooms in Lewiston, on Saturday, January 2d, 1875. A full attendance is necessary.

*Lewiston.* W. R. WRIGHT, *Sec'y.*

**Another Large Colt.**

Mr. Charles R. Colman of Vassalboro', has a gelding colt three years old last June which weighs 1332 lbs., stands 16 1-2 hands high and is one of the largest and best colts in this section. SUBSCRIBER.

**Query for Horsemen.**

Will not some one please tell me what to do to stop a horse from eating his crib. He is not a "cribber" but simply bites off pieces and chews them up. Will not some one please tell me through the FARMER and oblige A SUBSCRIBER.

**Waldo County Dairymens' Association.**

At the annual meeting of this Association held at Belfast, Dec. 3d, the following officers were elected: President, Joseph Ellis, Brooks; Secretary, G. E. Brackett, Belfast; Treasurer, Jason Hills, Lincolnville. The next meeting will be held at Belfast in January.

**Another Good Colt.**

Mr. E. S. Besse of Monmouth has an 18 months colt after Young Winthrop Morrill, that weighs 875 lbs. stands 14 1-2 hands high and gives promise of good speed.

**Officers of Presumpscot Park Association.**

The following gentlemen were elected officers of Presumpscot Park Association, at its late annual meeting: President, Dr. S. H. Tewsbury; Vice President, William G. Davis; Treasurer, Darius H. Ingraham; Clerk, John C. Small; Directors, S. H. Tewksbury, Geo. F. Hitchings, George Burnham, Jr., W. H. Milliken, William G. Davis, Ammi Whitney, Isaac Jackson, John W. Lane, J. F. Libby; Executive Committee, S. H. Tewsbury, Geo. F. Hitchings, W. H. Milliken; Superintendent, Geo. W. Ricker.

**Profits of Poultry.**

Mr. Isaiah A. Handy of this town reports a net profit from twenty Buff Cochin pullets of $40—or two dollars each, in one year. This includes the income from eggs and poultry and is over and above the cost of keeping, from actual account.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Register of Maine Horses.

**Names Claimed.**

DASHING CHARLEY, for my Morrell stallion foaled June 18th, 1873.

*Harrison.* CHARLES NEEDHAM.

EMPRESS, for my filly foaled June 12th, 1874; by Crown Prince, by Gen. Knox, dam, Messenger mare, Kitty Severance. [Corrected—ED.] H. C. LAMB.

*Winslow.*

### Maine in the Centennial.

The Maine Board of Centennial Commissioners, appointed by the President and Governor, consists of Hon. Joshua Nye of Augusta, and Hon. C. P. Kimball of Portland on the part of the United States—and Messrs. J. H. McMullan, F. E. Shaw, E. A. Sprague, C. W. Roberts, and W. H. Simpson, with Enoch Knight, Esq., of Portland as Secretary. This Board has just put forth an address to the people of the State concerning the approaching exhibition in Philadelphia, and the necessity of contributing to it. After an introduction in which events in the past hundred years of our history are briefly recounted, the address continues:

"The location of the celebration will be at the city of Philadelphia, where still stands Independence Hall, containing the bell that pealed the notes of freedom to the land, and where were initiated the stirring scenes of the Revolution. The State of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia have made most liberal appropriations in aid of the celebration. In the magnificent Park will be erected the buildings of the Centennial, including superior accommodations for every department of the exhibition. These buildings will cover forty acres of ground, will be elegant in architectural design, and combine the best fruits of the experience of the managers of similar expositions in this country and Europe. In this immense space will be displayed the products of all the nations of the earth. Every State of our Union will contribute the best and most attractive results that its industries afford, and their sons and daughters will meet face to face with the greeting of a common nationality.

Next to the grandeur of the occasion, the magnitude of the undertaking and its now assured success challenge our admiration. The spirited and friendly rivalry of the States of our Union will be called forth to make the occasion for each worthy of itself. All the diversities of our varied climate will be shown by the productions of each; all the results of mechanical skill, of cunning handiwork, of patient industry, of valuable invention—all that makes elegant our homes, that contributes to comfort, that mitigates climatic extremes, that increases wealth, that lightens labor or recompenses toil—will each have its part.

The occasion will not only be national but international. All the countries of the world have been invited to participate, and a very large number have already signified their acceptance. Wares from the teeming workshops of the Old World will be there displayed. England, France, Germany, Belgium, Russia, Italy, and all European countries will be represented, as well as Asia with its famous fabrics; South America, Japan, the islands of the Pacific, and far Australia.

In this grand celebration the people of the State of Maine are invited and expected to have their part. As one of the sisterhood of States that form the glorious Union, we ought not to permit the occasion to draw near without proper preparations for its recognition.

We have an intelligent, active and inventive population; we have manufactures that would do credit to any country in the world; we have uncounted resources of soil, mine and forest. It needs only a resolve on the part of those who control these—a resolution which shall declare that Maine must be worthy of herself on this great occasion—to make an exhibit of it which every son and daughter of Dirigo State shall be proud. We hope that our people will take this matter into serious consideration, and make preparations in the coming season for their contributions to Maine's Department in the exhibition.

At a future day, directions will be given in relation to bringing contributions to the Maine Commissioners."

## Woman's Department.

For The Woman's Department.

### Faith in God.

BY DORA DALRYMPLE.

I have seen the dew that sparkled on a glorious summer morn,
As it clothed the fields in beauty, a moment, and then was gone.—
Reminding me of the lovely, who pass from earth away,
When the Master gently calls them into an endless day.

I have seen the clouds at evening, when the sun sank in the west,
And they looked so pure and holy, so full of quiet rest,
That I thought if the lives we're living became like them, we must
As calmly rest in the promise of Him, in whom we live and trust.

I have heard in the hush of twilight, the sad-voiced whipporwill,
Chanting his lonely praises while the busy world was still;
If the lonely and broken-hearted would humbly kiss the rod,
They would, like the untamed songster, sing praises unto God.

If we only have faith to keep us in the straight and narrow way,
Taking the word of Jesus which shines unto perfect day,
We can do, and bear, and suffer, till the boatman we shall see,
Till we hear the songs seraphic, and the summons sets us free.

For the Woman's Department.

### The Home Mission.

Some one has said "the three sweetest words in the English language are Mother, Home and Heaven." Probably no word has so much significance and calls out such deep and varied feeling, as the little word Home. No other place has so much to do with shaping the character of girls or boys. They receive from it the strongest influences and incentives. I do not think all the virtue springs from this source, neither all the vice; there are other potent educators, and sometimes they rise up against the influences of home and sweep them like a torrent all away. Why and how we cannot say, but it is often enough to make us watchful and in earnest.

Knowing as we well do there are exceptions, the great law still remains true—"as is the home so is the man." There are some fundamental principles which a home must have, and without which it is only a name. Is it not the want of these which is so rapidly changing the character of our New England home life, and threatening the life of an institution which was not only sanctioned by God, but ordained by Him, and is interwoven with the very fabric of life and hopes "A home is not merely four square walls;" not the accidental coming together of human souls under the same roof. It is not an outright gift of God; it is a thing upon which to build up fixed principles. A home will not grow of itself; we must not let things take their course; if we do, what wonder that some homes are the unsatisfactory things they are? A home is just as much a work of time, and care, and art, as a painting or a piece of statuary. Home is like a stringed instrument, only kept in tone by a constant care. If each individual performed faithfully his or her part in the home mission; if each cultivated carefully the little garden within his own gates; if each were a faithful steward in the household charge, there would indeed be fewer homes that are not homes.

Excitement and love of popularity have much to do with social zeal. Many a woman who neglects the home mission, will be very active in church work and social work. It is often a question whether they think most of God's glory or their own popularity. If a single member of a family forgets or neglects his duties to the other members of it, the home fails. Every one in it helps to make or mar the happiness of it. I do not think the different members of a home realize how much the pleasant intercourse of home depends on each one; or how hard it is to others, when one and another neglect their share of the duties. It should be remembered that in the home intercourse each one has his place and part. A happy home is an impossibility where any one shirks his own duty. The idea of a home is a place to grow in, for parents as well as children. It should be progressive: this year better than last. There must be recreation, intellectual improvement, music and works of art, as they can be afforded. Home must be made attractive. Nothing should be neglected that will make home the best, most delightful place, and how can all this be accomplished without a refined, educated woman as its centre? Can Bridget make our homes if they are left to her care? Not long since, one woman wrote that she had left the care of the *home* to Bridget, gone into her husband's office, and advised others to do the same! Women are too much inclined to look upon domestic duties as mere drudgery. They need encouragement to make the home all a home should be. "No statesman, at the head of a nation's affairs, has more frequent calls for wisdom, firmness, tact, discrimination, prudence, and versatility of talent," than the head of a family. If we all left our homes to the care of Bridget, where would our New England homes be in a short time? No servant can make a refined, attractive home. They can be helps in the home, even then they need some one to direct their labors. How many thoughtful servants can be found, or well trained, even, in the common duties of a household? Let there be many who are willing to make home the centre of happiness, enjoyment and love; to make a real Home. E. S. C.

*Portland.*

For the Woman's Department.

### Keeping Things out of Sight.

I do not believe in putting the best things out of sight—nicely bound books, handsome and valuable pictures, ornaments and useful articles too nice for use or handling; having a spare room where the accumulation of years' industries are tastefully arranged, only to be peeped into, or entered with shoeless feet, and then only by the light that enters through a half-opened blind. I believe in working, expending and using freely, but not abusing. If dust, sunlight or flies soil, cover them with some transparency that will not hide its attractiveness or sudden appreciation if brought in contact. I have spent many happy moments by suddenly and unexpectedly encountering some souvenir that became a stimulant and resulted in healthy expression.

Then again, after one has spent hours in monotonous surroundings of things and sounds, it is a healthy cordial to see something a little out of the daily routine—and if a book, we catch it for a cursory review and take with us back to our work a new idea to revolve round, mould and nutrify. This seeing the same pictures, books and ornaments—outcasts from the company-peeping-room—is like living on the same stated dishes day after day, nourishing the same sett of muscles, the same blood-element and brain-force. So no wonder certain persons are forever harping on the one chord, or strain of thought—only that one has been fed. Our minds are fed from stomach and surroundings, hence the important action of dealing, that the whole person be wholesomely developed. I have seen children grievously rough in their treatment of books and other articles, and because they had never been taught otherwise, and knew no other method than as they treated their sled, trucks, or other playthings. The presence of such children is dreaded, but when we consider that at home such admired articles are out of sight, we feel like suspending work and patiently help the starved child admire the pictures and books, explain the minerals and autumn leaf album, till the little fellow is satisfied, and we always regard the time as judiciously spent for the memory of confessed happiness bears abundant fruit in satisfaction.

Now if parents desire their children to reflect credit upon themselves, probably the most exemplary way would be to treat them as attentively as company. It might be irksome at first, but familiarity soon softens and lessens the "so much work," and you reap the reward by the satisfaction that you can rest easy and have company and children in the best room. FAITH TAPPAN.

# Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Dec. 12, 1874.

## TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE, OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

*Postage Free to all Subscribers.*

☞ All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change his post office direction or to discontinue his paper, must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

## Collectors' Notices.

Mr. S. N. Taber is now calling upon our subscribers in Washington Co.

Mr. C. S. Ayer is now calling upon our subscribers in Knox County.

Mr. A. D. Foster, of Lakeville, is our authorized agent for Nova Scotia, and will call upon our subscribers in that Province.

Mr. W. S. Noyes, of Saco, will call upon our subscribers in York Co. during the winter.

Mr. J. P. Clark will call upon our subscribers in Eastern Somerset and Piscataquis counties.

## To our Subscribers.

The new postal law, requiring the prepayment of postage at the office of publication on all newspapers and other periodicals sent to subscribers (except to those in the county wherein the paper is published), goes into effect on the 1st of January, 1875. This will impose an unwelcome and in many cases a very severe burden upon newspaper publishers, unless subscribers are willing to submit to an increase in the price of subscription sufficient to reimburse to the former the additionally imposed cost of postage. There would be no injustice or hardship in exacting this of our subscribers, inasmuch as they are now taxed the postage, and they would pay no more for the Farmer than they do at present, while the publishers, by this means, might exempt themselves from an additional annual expense of from twelve to fifteen hundred dollars.

But we do not propose to resort to this, preferring rather to assume the burden ourselves, and trusting to the good will and justice of our patrons in making up to us the loss by a greater promptness in the payment of their subscriptions, and a generous co-operation with us in our efforts to extend the circulation of the Farmer, which we trust will be for the good of all concerned.

It will therefore be understood that from and after January 1, 1875, unless and until the present law shall be repealed, the Maine Farmer will be sent to *all subscribers, at the present rates*, FREE OF POSTAGE, making a saving to each of our patrons of twenty cents per annum.

In doing this, however, we shall be compelled more strictly to enforce the published terms of the paper, viz.: *Two Dollars in advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* if not paid within three months of the date of subscription. The necessity and justice of this will be acknowledged, we trust, by all our fair-minded patrons, when they are informed of the fact that at least one-half the subscribers of the Farmer are now in arrears for the paper for various periods of time, ranging from one to ten years, compelling the publishers to carry a heavy load of indebtedness, of which prompt payment on the part of delinquent subscribers would relieve them, and at the same time enable them to make valuable improvements in the paper for the benefit of our readers. An assurance of the good intentions of the publishers in this direction, notwithstanding the large increase in their expenses by the pre-payment of postage, is in the outlay they are making for new type and other material, with which to commence the new volume of the Farmer in December. With new type, better paper and more reading matter, we mean to deserve and hope to receive a large and remunerative accession to our subscription list.

And now a plain word to our delinquent subscribers:

Gentlemen, we cannot afford to continue sending you the Farmer without pay. Our ordinary expenses of publication are heavy, and, with the recently added postage, make it absolutely necessary that we should collect the large sums due us. The alternative is a plain and imperative one: Prompt payment or an immediate resort to legal measures for the collection of our honest dues. Which shall it be?

We confidently trust that the response will be of a character to warrant the good opinion which an intercourse of many years with the subscribers of the Maine Farmer has inspired us; and as an inducement to a ready compliance with our reasonable and necessary request, we make them the following liberal offer:

*All persons in arrears who will send us the amount now due, at the rate of $2 per year and two dollars in addition, shall receive credit for all past indebtedness, and for a year's subscription in advance. THIS OFFER TO STAND OPEN UNTIL THE TENTH OF JANUARY, 1875. All payments made at this office, or by mail, or to our authorized agents previous to that date, will be credited in accordance with the terms above stated.*

## The Signal Service.

If Old Probabilities had lived two hundred years ago, or rather, if any person at that time had been able to foretell the weather with as much certainty as we now have it in daily reports from the Chief Signal Office, he would have stood more than an even chance of being accused of having dealings with the arch enemy of souls and of expiating his offence on "Hangman's Hill." But wonderful strides have been made since that superstitious age, not more in meteorological science, than in nearly every other department of human knowledge. The developement of meteorological science of which we are now speaking, is only in its infancy, and yet it is a recognized fact and the whole civilized world will soon be the recipients of its benefits.

The annual reports of Gen. A. J. Myers, chief signal officer of the United States army, grow more and more interesting as the benefits derived from his discoveries are better appreciated. To him is due the credit of organizing the system which has proved satisfactory and has given him an enviable reputation, both in this country and in Europe. The daily prognostications of the weather, which we now get in all the morning papers, and which are fulfilled with wonderful accuracy, are fast becoming indispensable to business men, and there is scarcely any one who is not interested in them. But the three or four lines which we get by telegraph, predicting the weather for the day, give but a faint idea of the great amount of labor involved in the system of which these three or four lines are only one of the numerous results.

The service involves a careful record, several times a day, of the varieties of temperature, weight or pressure of the atmosphere, the direction and force of the winds, the quantity and quality of the clouds, over an area embracing the whole country. These observations have been carried on to a limited extent, for several years, by the Smithsonian Institute, but after the close of the war, it was transferred to the Signal Service, which seemed to have nothing else to occupy its time, and under the excellent management of its chief officer, it has arrived at its present efficient condition. Simultaneous observations are now daily made in all parts of the country, and the reports are gathered up and consolidated at Washington, and the deductions drawn and scattered broadcast through the public press.

Another important labor which the system embraces, is a careful study of the condition of the water in all the Western rivers, by means of which freshets are foretold and reported below, in season for the protection of life and property.

Along the sea-coasts and upon the shores of the principal lakes, warnings of the approach of storms, by means of danger signals are given, by which life and property are preserved.

For the benefit of farmers who cannot have the advantage of the daily papers, the prognostications are telegraphed at midnight from headquarters at Washington, to centers of distribution, scattered all over the country, where they are printed in the form of bulletins, and forwarded to the nearest post offices, to be conspicuously displayed. There is no class to whom the daily reception of these probabilities is of more importance than the agriculturist, and as the system is perfected, the facilities for giving him early notice, will doubtless be improved.

The field of observation is not limited to the United States, for stations have been erected at Behring's Straits, on Norton's Sound, and in the northerly part of the Hudson Bay territory. Greenland, Iceland, Labrador, Norway, Sweden and Russia, have united with us to form a chain of posts around the world, at which observations are made at precisely the same moment as at Washington.

In fact, Gen. Myers has succeeded in enlisting the entire sympathies of the civilized world, in aid of his service, and all the abundant resources for scientific observation in whole empires, have been placed at his disposal. The beneficial results of all this combined effort in the important work of the Signal Service, can hardly be overestimated.

City News and Gossip. The quarterly payment of United States pensions commenced on Friday, and the ex-soldiers have been quite prominent on the street.——Mrs. Emily S. Hatch, widow of the late Walter Hatch, died on Thursday. Her remains were taken to Deering for burial by the side of the remains of her late husband.——Mr. George J. Varney, author of the "Young Peoples' History of Maine," has been appointed assistant to Mr. Hobbs in the State Library. Mr. Varney formerly had charge of the corporation libraries in Lewiston, and is well qualified for his new position.——The holiday vacation of the Village Schools occurs in two weeks.——Mr. J. S. Hendee is selling off his stock of chromos at cost.——The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department has made arrangements, in case of fire near the works of the Messrs. Sprague, Wyman or Harvey, to have three distinct alarms sounded by the steam whistles at each of those establishments.——J. G. Abbott, well known in this city has accepted the position of editor of the Biddeford *Times*.——Williams & Tibbetts, whose blacksmith shop on Bond street was burned a few mornings since, have erected a new shop and resumed their business on the old site.——The Traverse Jurors were excused Saturday from further attendance at this term of the court. The Judge remained a short time to complete unfinished business not requiring a jury.——Seven tons of spruce gum were offered for sale in this city by a man from the woods last week.——The steamer Star of the East made her last trip up the Kennebec on Wednesday of last week. She has had a long and prosperous season's work and will now rest until the ice embargo is removed in the spring.——The first lecture of the Literary and Library Course, will come off Friday evening of this week, by Mr. George Dawson of England. Subject: Wives of Great Men. The other lectures will follow as advertised.——The Augusta Protective Union Association has been organized, the object of which is to combine for the purchase of supplies at cost.——Mercury 8 degrees above Wednesday morning.——The Universalist Parish Sociable meets with Mrs. M. V. B. Chase on State street, this (Thursday) evening.——James W. Bradbury, Jr., Esq., has been appointed commissioner to take testimony in the claims for the Geneva Award.——Mrs. Mary E. Pike, widow of the late Daniel Pike of this city, died in Portland Monday.——Wm. Britt, Charles Carter and Charles Kimball, were arrested and lodged in jail Wednesday, for breaking into and stealing goods from the store of Wm. Ware in South Windsor, Sunday night. The goods were recovered.

☞The treasurer of St. Mark's Home greatefully acknowledges donations to the Home, for the months of October and November, as follows:

For October—From Mr. A. Lambard, 4 bbls apples, 1 bbl potatoes, 3 bbls vegetables; Mrs. A. Lambard, 3 hearth brooms; Mrs. D. Williams, vegetables and baked apples, 1 peck pears, four squashes, large cheese; Major Whittemore, 1 bbl eating apples; Mrs. Whittemore, 8 balls butter, 2 quarts milk; Mrs. H. A. DeWitt, vegetables, five quarts milk; Mrs. T. Lambard, bread and cake; Miss Stanley, 1 bush. apples, 1-2 bush. cranberries; Mrs. R. D. Rice, cooked pears; Mrs. Locke, 3 glasses jelly, grapes, flowers; Mrs. E. Rowse, cookies; Mr. James Little, 1 bbl sweet potatoes; a friend, jar of pickles.

For November—Messrs. Holway & Robinson, 1 bbl flour; Messrs. Parrott & Chase, 1 ton coal; Col. H. S. Osgood, $5; Dr. J. A. Hawes, $5; Messrs. Williamson & Greenwood, bill $4; Mr. E. Milliken, 5 lbs tea; Mr. Eri Wills, pineapple cheese; Mr. A. Lambard, 1 turkey; Mr. T. Lambard squashes; Messrs. H. A. DeWitt and T. Lambard, bbl flour; Mr. J. Piper, 2 boxes grapes; Mrs. D. Williams, 2 dozen pears, chicken broth, plum pudding, nuts, raisins, apples; Mrs. E. Rowse, 1 jar grape jelly, doughnuts, cookies, mince pies; Mrs. Gen. Tilton, 8 glasses and 2 qt jars jelly; Miss Stanley, 2 tin pails, drudging box, machine; Mrs. DeWitt, medicine, oat meal, apple sauce, milk, pies, nuts, apples; Major Whittemore, 1 bbl potatoes; Mrs. Whittemore, celery, milk; Miss Wyman, baked pears, pies; Mrs. W. S. Badger, 1 1-2 doz oranges; Mrs. J. W. Bradbury, 1 turkey.

☞Our appeal to delinquent subscribers has already in numerous instances, been promptly responded to, and we doubt not that many others have determined to take advantage of the liberal terms offered them. It has been kindly suggested to us by one of our agents, that many of our subscribers would find it convenient to remit their arrears of subscription by the hand of the Representative of their town or district. To enable all who desire to do this, we have decided to extend the day of grace to the *tenth of January*, 1875. It will therefore be understood that our offer holds good to that date. By that time we hope to hear from all our delinquent subscribers.

☞Friend J. D. Lang, one of the Indian Commissioners, has recently made a journey of nearly ten thousand miles, visiting the Indians in Oregon and Washington Territory, and traveling as far as Puget Sound and the Straits of Fuca. He had barely reached home from this long and tedious journey, when he was telegraphed to from Washington and requested to start immediately on another trip to the Indian Territory. We have an interesting communication from Friend Lang, relating to his late journey, which we shall publish next week.

☞A correspondent informs us that Capt. Jabez Pratt of Greene, died on the 30th of November, aged 84 years. He came from Leicester, Mass., to Greene, in 1799, and lived there until his decease. He commanded a company of militia in the war of 1812, and was ever a prominent and much respected citizen. He was one of the very oldest subscribers to the Farmer, his subscription commencing with the first issue, which subscription he has renewed every year since.

☞Harrison Baker, Esq., proprietor of the Augusta House, has recently put that popular resort into excellent condition preparatory to the assembling of the Legislature. The rooms have been repaired and re-painted and some of them, including the ladies' parlor, have been newly carpeted. An addition has been erected on the south side, in which is a well appointed billiard saloon. This house is first class and we trust that increased patronage may repay the Colonel for this outlay.

☞On our fourth page will be found a brief account of the terrible Mountain Meadow massacre which happened nearly eighteen years ago. The affair was long shrouded in mystery, but there is little doubt now that the crime will be brought home to the doors of the leading Mormons of that date. The trial of John D. Lee, which is soon to come off, will be likely to bring out all the essential facts connected with the horrible affair.

☞We call the special attention of our city readers to the attractive stock of holiday goods advertised in another column, at Partridge's Drug Store, under Granite Hall, and at Horace North's Bookstore, No. 155 Water Street. Also to the extensive assortment of traveling bags and other goods to be found at Coller, Hamilton & Co.'s, No. 143 Water St.

☞We are indebted to Mr. Daniel Gage, formerly of this city, for generous donations of nice salmon, sent all the way from Puget Sound. Salmon are very plenty in that region, and those sent are fine specimens of this princely fish.

☞The libel suit of Edna Deane Procter, against Francis Moulton, has been settled by the payment of costs of prosecution by Moulton, $4,375.

☞Gen. James W. Webster, a prominent citizen of Belfast, died last week, aged 75 years. He was better known to the State at large as Adjutant General in 1867-8.

☞In our brief comments in regard to the vote of the City Council to authorize a loan of one thousand dollars to meet a deficiency in the appropriation for highways, in our last issue, a mistake occurs which we hasten to correct. We had in mind a decision which had been made during the year, touching the rights of municipal officers to authorize a loan, but did not look it up as we should have done, before referring to it. We have since examined it, as reported at the time, and found its scope to be much greater than we represented, and bearing directly upon the question at issue. It is a decision rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States in June last, in the case of William Ray against the Mayor and Common Council of Nashville, Tenn., based upon the validity of security such as is usually given by municipal corporations as a temporary expedient, to anticipate funds.

The court held that cities and towns cannot authorize or negotiate even a temporary loan without express authority in *each case*, and that all municipal orders, drafts, notes and other evidences of indebtedness issued to secure the payment of any loan unless the same was duly authorized, are void, and whoever takes them does so at his own risk. This decision having been rendered by the United States Court, has the same application in Maine that it has in Tennessee, and may be regarded as pretty good law. Towns and cities are authorized by law to appropriate money and assess the same on the polls and estates of the inhabitants to meet their current expenses, and they cannot legally raise money in any other way. When it comes to raising funds by loan, authority must first be obtained from a higher power.

Our remarks were made in no captious spirit, and were in accordance with views that we have all along advocated that except in extraordinary cases, the expenditures of any year should not be in excess of the taxes.

In municipalities where a different practice prevails, debts are steadily accumulating which must sooner or later result in great embarrassment if not in bankruptcy. It would be better to make the appropriations a little too large and have a small balance to carry to the next year, than to have them continually falling behind. But there is no necessity for either. It is very easy and certainly very desirable to keep the expenditures within the limits of appropriations. The practice of transferring funds from one department to another is not entirely defensible. It has sometimes been practiced by the Governor and Council in the management of State appropriations, but it has never been regarded as the proper thing to do.

We think this decision of the court may have a salutary effect upon those municipalities which are in the habit of raising means beyond the ordinary receipts of the treasury, and may also serve as a long needed check to municipal extravagance. We hope it may also serve to take the conceit out of some municipal officers who have heretofore thought themselves possessed of unlimited power.

Re-assembling of Congress. The Second Session of the XLIII Congress occurred on Monday, with a good attendance in both branches. In view of the recent reverses of the dominant party, the proceedings of this session will be watched with great interest. The questions of the greatest importance which are to come up before it are those relating to finance and to the restoration of order and quietude in the states formerly in rebellion. Nothing either satisfactory or substantial toward the adjustment of these questions, was accomplished at the late long session, and the present session expires by limitation on the fourth of March. Taking out the holidays, there will remain only about sixty-five working-days for the session. But this is time enough to accomplish a great deal, if all will take hold of the work in a man fashion and, sinking party interests, have an eye only to the general good. One of the first measures introduced was a bill to repeal the obnoxious law passed near the close of the last session, known as the "press gag law." We were never quite satisfied that this law was as bad as it was represented to be by some, but we presume the country would not suffer in consequence of its repeal. We shall give our readers a carefully prepared abstract of the daily doings of Congress, during the present session, accompanied by such occasional explanations and criticisms as the circumstances require.

☞The much talked of transit of Venus occurred on Tuesday, an event for which the scientific world has been waiting since 1769. The great interest which attaches to this passage of the planet across the Sun's disc, is that it will enable astronomers to measure more accurately the distance between the earth and the Sun. The extreme northern and southern portions of the earth are the most favorable poidts for observation. Eight parties have been sent out from this country—five for points in the Southern Ocean and three for Russia. The next transit will take place in 1882, and will be visible in the Atlantic states. After that the next one will occur in 2004. At the last transit observations were made which placed the Sun at 95,263,000 miles from the earth, but the advances made in the science of astronomy since that date, and the use of improved instruments, go to show that this distance is several millions of miles short.

The Message. President Grant delivered his annual message to Congress Monday. On account of its great length, we give only an abstract of the minor topics presented, but those of greater public interest, we publish in full. It is a plain business like document with no attempts at rhetorical flourishes or fine writing. The views of President upon questions of finance including a return to specie payment, are in accordance with those expressed in his last message which met with general approval. The message is couched in plain terms and his meaning cannot well be misunderstood. Those who desire to know what his views are had better peruse the document itself.

☞A terrible accident occurred near Slade's ferry, where a railroad bridge is being constructed across Taunton river in Massachusetts. Several men were engaged in sinking a cylinder which is to form a portion of the upper pier, when the upper flange of the air-lock to which the cover was secured, together with the cover, were blown off by the pressure of air in the cylinder, which at the time was thirty pounds per square inch, as indicated by the pressure guage. Eight men were in the cylinder at the time, three of whom were killed outright, one fatally injured, one seriously, and three escaped uninjured.

☞A new bridge has been erected across the Androscoggin at Lewiston, costing $43,000. It is less than half a mile below the old one and connects Lincoln street with the territory owned by the Little Androscoggin Water Power Co. It is within the memory of many persons now living that a ferry was the only means of crossing the river at that point. This new bridge is another tie which binds Lewiston and Auburn together and the nuptials of the two cities will be celebrated at no distant day.

☞It is reported that the steamer La Plata from Gravesend for Rio Grande del Sud, which was chartered by the Siemens Brothers to repair the telegraph cable, foundered off Ushant, on the 29th ult., and that nearly sixty lives were lost. Fourteen survivors were received by the Gareloch of Glasgow from a boat in which they had been floating twenty-three hours, and were transferred to the steamer Antenor, which arrived in the Thames Wednesday night. The loss of the steamer is attributed to the shifting of the heavy grappling apparatus.

County Items. The Reporter says that Daniel Wells, of Clinton, lost a valuable horse, last Sunday. The animal stepped on a hoe in a stable, and the handle flew up and entered the bowels a foot or more.——Mr. David Dyer, a native of Sidney, Me., was run over in the street at Fall River, Mass., by a vehicle, one day last week, and died in about six hours. He leaves a wife, three sons and one daughter. One of his sons is treasurer of one of the manufacturing establishments of that place.——The *Reporter* say that clothes line thieves are operating about Gardiner.——An unoccupied house of Samuel King, Jr., of Waterville, was burned last Monday, under suspicious circumstances, and a fire inquest was held on Friday, when it appeared that the house had been vacated about one week. It was covered by $800 insurance, and worth with the lot not exceeding $400, and kerosene had been put between the walls of the house and also in the cellar. The result of the inquest was that the house was set on fire by some person unknown.——Samuel Warren of Winslow, was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs, Friday night, and bled to death in two house. He was 60 years of age, and has been a very robust man, not having been sick a day before for many years.——The State Iindustrial School for girls at Hallowell will be ready for occupancy about Jan. 1, and will be dedicated about the 20th of that month. The services will be of an informal nature, the president, ex-Governor Perham and Hon. John L. Stevens, being the principal speakers. The building is very finely located and cost about $12,000; its furniture will cost some $8000.——The *Kennebec Journal* published a leader the other day, headed "Wanted—a Policy," and the editor of the Gardiner *Journal* who represents the Travelers Life Insurance Company, replies promptly. "Come down here—we're the man for you."——The daughters of Gersham Fogg of Benton, have made shirts for the Hathaway factory at Waterville, for which they received $1510, all during the last eight years.——Henry Stanley of Winthrop, fell from the platform of his father's carriage shop a few days ago and dislocated his shoulder.——Gardiner is to have two new doctors—Dr. A. T. Shuman, who has just finished his studies in New York and Miss Addie Williams, who takes her brother's place.——The store of Wm. Ware at South Windsor, was broken into Sunday night, and about $600 worth of woolen cloths stolen. Mr. W. had just got in a new stock.——North Vassalboro is to have a course of lectures, the first to be delivered by Rev. Dr. Ricker on the 18th inst. He is to be followed by Rev. A. L. Park Jan. 8th; Prof S. K. Smith Jan. 22d and Prof Wm. Elder Feb. 12.

☞The Collector of Customs at Bangor having complained to the Secretary of the Treasury that smuggling is carried on through the mails from New Brunswick, and inquired whether a custom officer has power to seize suspected mail packages in transit, Secretary Bristow informs him that under no circumstances is an officer of the customs authorized to seize or detain packages conveyed in the mails. If, however, a custom officer discovers packages which he has reason to belive contain smuggled goods and their destination to a particular post-office in the United States be known, it is his duty to notify the master of such post-office and request the detention of the packages till they can be opened in the presence of the person to whom addressed, and in the presence of a custom officer, in order that the government dues may be paid, or if there be cause, forfeiture enforced.

Death of an Old Stager. Orin Hobbs of Portland, who before the days of Maine railroads, drove a stage between Portland and Augusta, died in Portland last week, at the age of 63 years. He was born in Norway, his father having been one of the first settlers of that town. When he drove the stage, he was one of the most noted whips on the line. He was selected as one of the drivers to carry the Cambria's news to Montreal, the success of which settled the question in favor of building the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad from Portland to Canada. His part of the route was between Portland and Andover, a distance of 74 miles which he made in four hours and thirty-five minutes. Mr. G. G. Waterhouse was another of the messengers, and Mr. Hobbs and he were the first conductors on the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad, a position which Mr. Hobbs held until his death. His older brother, Alvah Hobbs, for many years a resident of Locke's Mills, in Greenwood, died only a few days ago.

The Prof. Marsh Expedition. Prof. Marsh and his associates have returned to Fort Laramie from the bed lands south of the Black Hills. They left Red Cloud agency and crossed White River, notwithstanding Indian threats, and were watched by the Indians every step of the way. After the Indians found the party were really searching for bones and not for gold, they were not disturbed, but a constant watch was kept by the guards. The weather was very severe, the thermometer below zero, but they persevered. The fossil beds explored were of the Miocene age, and though limited in extent, proved to be rich beyond expectation. Nearly two tons of fossil bones were collected, most of them rare specimens, and many unknown to science. These remains were all of tropical animals, entombed in a bed of an ancient lake. Some of them were as large as elephants, others are allied to the camel, rhinoceros and horse.

☞The Waterville *Mail* says, "that hypocritical stuff called native wine, which had flooded Waterville and other places so long, has at last found itself swagged by the town authorities. Some time ago, a quantity of the stuff was seized there as contraband and was brought before Trial Justice Heath. Its friends came on from Augusta, to swear away the charges brought against it, but they failed to convince His Honor that this was the "kind of native wine" to which our State law makers intended to give free circulation."

The *Mail* adds, "that the selectmen intend to follow up this infamous fraud, and pour into the ditch as much of the foul compound as they can get hold of. The sooner this is understood, both by the makers and sellers of the article, the better for their pockets—and much the better for the drinker."

☞A New York correspondent of the Portland *Argus* received a barrel of apples from home, the other day, and sent seventeen invitations to sons of Maine to come and help him eat the fruit. Sixteen of the invited came the first night; fourteen of them brought baskets to take some home, nine of them brought their wives, three brought children, and one wretched man brought two skeptical friends, to whom he had been sounding the praises of Nodhead apples.

☞A mass meeting of the colored people of Alabama was held at Montgomery last week, at which the question of a general emigration of their race was discussed and favorably considered. Twenty counties in the cotton belt were represented, and the speakers all agreed that the condition of the colored people in that State is deplorable. The feeling in favor of emigration was unanimous.

☞The city of Auburn is sued for $1500, for the use of an outhouse which was taken temporarily for the accommodation of small pox patients. The house including barn, outbuildings and farm was purchased last spring by the party bringing the suit for $1800. The Lewiston *Journal* says only two rooms were used in the house, and after the patients had recovered the house was thoroughly fumigated and put in order.

☞A case has recently been decided in the Supreme Court of Indiana which excites much more than a local interest, and is of importance aside from the abstract questions which are presented. The Court virtually claims that the laws and constitution of Indiana are paramount to the constitution of the United States, and that the former are to be interpreted in the light of public sentiment and at the time they are adopted. Formerly Indiana passed laws excluding colored children from the public schools, and prohibiting the immigration of colored people into the State. These statutes are claimed to have been in accordance with public sentiment in that State at the time of their passage, and to this period the Court goes for light to guide it in interpreting more recent statutes.

The case in question was simply this: A colored tax-payer and a citizen of that State, a father and grandfather, asked for the admission of his children and grandchildren to the public schools. His request was not complied with and the case was carried to the courts. The court of the county where the action was brought decided in favor of the plaintiff, but on an appeal, the Supreme Court reversed the decision of *nisi prius*, and rendered a decision in favor of the defendant, deciding that colored scholars had no right to attend the same school with white children. This decision was based upon an old State law passed previous to the adoption of the 14th amendment to the constitution of the United States which declares that "no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

The Constitution of the State of Indiana provides that "knowledge and learning, generally diffused throughout the community, being essential to the preservation of a free Government, it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to encourage, by all suitable means, moral, intellectual, scientific and agricultural improvement, and to provide by law for a general and uniform system of common schools, wherein tuition shall be without charge, and equally open to all."

The court held that "all" in the text of the constitution did not include colored children, because when the constitution was adopted, negroes were not regarded as citizens of Indiana.

This decision makes the 14th amendment a nullity so far as the State of Indiana is concerned, and as the issue is clearly presented, the force and effect of that amendment is in a fair way of being tested.

Cotton Statistics. These statistics were formerly published by the National Association of Cotton Planters and Manufacturers, an organization which ceased to exist in 1870. This year the New York Commercial Chronicle has collected the statistics with great care, and from the article in that paper we abstract the following:

"It appears that there are in the Northern States, 660 mills, with 8,927,754 spindles, and in the Southern, 187 mills, with 487,629 spindles. During the year the Northern mills consumed 1,094,387 bales, the Southern, 128,526 bales. The total of the country is 847 mills, 9,415,383 spindles, and cotton consumed 1,222,913 bales. The figures show a rapid progress since 1870, the number of spindles having increased about 33 per cent. The statistics of production are as follows: Threads, yarns and twines, 149,000,000 lbs.; sheetings, shirtings and similar plain goods, 707,000,000 yards; twilled and fancy goods 306,000,000 yards; print cloths 588,000,000 yards; ducks, 30,000,000 yards; bags in number 6,000,000. Besides the above there is a large production of hosiery and knit goods made of cotton or mixed with wool, of which there are no returns.

With the increase of spindles and consequent increase of production, there has been no corresponding increase of consumption domestic or foreign. The home trade has not been able to absorb the surplus of production, and we have not been able to command the foreign markets. Moreover, the price of cotton has ruled high, not having fallen in the ratio of that of manufactured goods, and the cost of production has continued to be great, conditions affecting both the manufacturers and consumers. The cotton interest therefore finds itself crippled by over production, and with no outlet for goods, mills must run on short time if they run at all.

The fact that the home market can thus be overstocked with present manufacturing facilities, affords a powerful argument in favor of a more determined attempt to regain our fair share of the foreign trade. In 1860 our exports of cotton goods amounted to eleven millions of dollars, while in 1873 they reached only three millions. The reason of the loss is not in the deterioration of the goods. Our cottons are now, as they have been, the finest in the world. The real source of the trouble lies in the unnatural cost of production, and in an unsafe and uncertain financial system, and these obstacles, the latter especially, must be removed before our cotton interest can resume its proper rank in the industries of the world.

☞In our advertising columns will be found a notice of a work recently published by S. S. Scranton & Co., Hartford, Conn., entitled, "The Political, Personal, and Property Rights of a Citizen of the United States," by Theophilus Parsons, LL. D. The following notice of the work and of its distinguished author, we clip from the Albany *Argus*:

"A more comprehensive and instructive work upon the subject indicated by the title has never been published in this country. The author has attained high mark as a writer upon subjects relating to the law, and the research and industry exhibited in the production of this book will add greatly to his reputation.

The work gives to the mass of the people a practical digest of the laws of their country, and the duties and responsibilities of a citizen. The language is plain and simple, and the meaning is clearly expressed. There is not a point bearing upon the questions involved in a careful consideration of the subjects under discussion, that is not brought into notice and completely elucidated."

☞We learn that at a meeting of a committee of the leading educators of New England, holden in Boston last week, it was determined to merge the Rhode Island *Schoolmaster*, the Massachusetts *Teacher*, the Maine *Journal of Education* and the Connecticut *School Journal*, into one paper, quarto form, of sixteen pages, to be called the *New England Journal of Education* with its publishing office in Boston. The editor of the new journal is to be the Hon. T. W. Bicknell, Commissioner of Public Schools in Rhode Island, who is said to be an enthusiast in educational matters and has had large experience.

☞Reports from Vicksburg say that the citizens were called to arms early Monday morning, armed negroes having advanced on the city in three separate columns. An engagement ensued, when the negroes were driven back with a loss of several killed and quite a number wounded. The force of negroes is stated at seven hundred. The cause of the outbreak is not fully explained though it is said the negroes were determined to re-instate Crosby as sheriff, his resignation having been required because he had not given bond.

☞The Grand Trunk Railway Company has decided to transport flour from Chicago to the Atlantic Seaboard at Portland, at 10 cents per barrel, and grain at 5 cents per hundred cheaper than the rates recently agreed upon by the other three trunk lines. This will make a saving to the people of Maine of not less than $100,000 annually.

☞In the Provincial lunatic asylum in Montreal, a female patient named Mrs. Newell, an English emigrant, afflicted with a notion that her five children's souls would not be saved unless she herself died a terrible death, set fire to her clothing and then knelt in devotion while enveloped in flames. The fire was extinguished but the patient died after great agony.

A Paper for Young People. The *Youth's Companion*, of Boston, is one of the most judicious and enterprising sheets in the country, and in breadth of miscellaneous reading, has no superior.

☞In Fellow's Compound of Hypophosphites are united the strengthing element for the nerves, and the due proportion of such ingredients as constitute health.

## Items of Maine News.

Bangor boys have formed a temperance society.

Joseph T. Hall of Rumford, aged 90 years died Thursday.

The lady crusaders of Bangor have fitted up a reading room.

Skowhegan is to have a musical convention in a few weeks.

The first train from West Waterville to Madison ran Monday.

Geo. H. Butler was arrested in Bangor, Friday night for larceny.

The Lady Crusaders of Bangor have petitioned the City Agency.

Martin Hall of Brewer was kicked in the mouth by a horse recently and severely injured.

The Penobscot Bar has passed resolutions of respect to the memory of the late David Barker.

E. & E. W. Blunt's steam lumber mill, at Bangor, was damaged $200 by fire Thursday night.

Calais has decided to allow her billiard saloons to remain open until 10 p. m., instead of 9 as heretofore.

The Times says, very interesting temperance meetings were held in Saco and Biddeford, Sunday evening.

Thursday night the tin shop of Mr. J. Seavey, in Waterboro Centre was burned. Loss $800; insurance $400.

The American prints the protest of several ladies of Ellsworth, tax-payers, against taxation without representation.

Samuel M. French of Bath, has been arrested for stealing clothes belonging to a Mr. Merriman of Harpswell.

The funeral of the Hon. N. G. Hichborn took place at the church in Stockton, on Thursday, and was largely attended.

A free fight occurred at the wharf of the Boston boat at Rockland, Monday, in which several persons were terribly beaten.

The school house in the Drake district, Milo, was burned Tuesday morning. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

Judge E. S. Rawson of Bangor. formerly Judge of Probate of Penobscot county, died at Bangor Monday night, aged 72 years.

An Auburn servant girl put a dozen or so of pistol catridges in the stove the other day. A new stove has since been purchased.

A small one story house on Bates street, Lewiston, owned by John Crosby, was considerably damaged by fire and water Monday forenoon.

Maynard Spear, who escaped from the Wiscasset jail a week or two since, was captured by the Rockland police Wednesday night, week.

Hon. Arthur McArthur of Limington, died on Sunday of last week, in the 85th year of his age. He was the oldest of the York county bar.

Miss Alice Storer, of Saco, twenty-eight years old, committed suicide by hanging Monday morning. Temporary insanity was the probable cause.

F. G. Patterson. of Portland, was taken suddenly ill in his office at Portland, Tuesday, with heart disease. He was quite comfortable in the evening.

Rev. W. P. Merrill, pastor of the church in Cape Porpoise, was presented, a few nights since by his parishioners, with a table full of luxuries, and $50.

The Belfast Age says the statement circulated that the late Ralph C. Johnson left $2,000,000 to his widow and children is mere guess work. His will has not been probated.

The Biddeford Light Infantry have transferred their arms and equipments to their new armory in the new Exchange Building. They have one of the finest armories in the state.

The performances of the "Passions Perils" company were nipped in the bud at Rockland, where the authorities had the courage and manhood to refuse them a license to exhibit.

The two large barns and carriage-house of John Fogler, South Hope, were burned Sunday evening, with a large amount of hay farming tools and some stock. Loss about $3.000; probably insured.

Miss Mary Knight of Hollis, who in March 1874, cut her ankle with broken glass under a lantern at the junction of Elm and North streets, Saco, has sued that city, claiming damages in the sum of $5000.

The inspectors are at the state prison, making their annual visit and taking account of stock. The American Bible Society has presented the convicts with a large lot of bibles of good size and print.

The Journal says that George W. Shattuck, esq., one of the best known and prominent citizens of Washington, died on Tuesday at the age of 52 years. His disease was apoplexy, and he died very suddenly.

At the meeting of the Androscoggin Medical Society Dr. R. S. Harlow read a paper in which he pitched into Mother Winslow and her soothing syrup, and advocated the passage of a law forbidding its sale.

Wednesday, Nov. 25th, an old lady about 90 years old, by the name of Eaton, on her way from Farmington to spend Thanksgiving in Wilton, complained of being sick, and was taken into a house, where she soon died.

Timothy Herrin, an old and much respected citizen of Houlton, died at the residence of his son, Nelson Herrin, Thursday, the 19th ult., at the advanced age of 83 years. He had resided in Houlton upwards of 40 years.

The Presque Isle Sunrise warmly advocates the building of a narrow gauge branch railroad from that town to the Inter-Colonial Railway, through Easton. The distance this side of the boundary is about 11 miles.

In the matter of ex-Sheriff Calderwood vs. the county of Waldo, for services under the sheriff enforcement law, the referee, ex-Gov. Crosby awarded him $409 and cost of court taxed at $24. The award was accepted.

Charles Peables of South Auburn, Thursday morning, arose, told his wife he did not feel as well as usual, and said he would lie down until breakfast time. His wife as soon as breakfast was prepared, went to his room and found him dead.

Information has been received in Bangor. that Mr. Arthur H. Day, formerly of that city, and now connected with the publishing department of the Chicago Advance, had a severe attack of bleeding on Sunday last, and is very low.

The Camden Herald records a large seizure of liquors, valued at $1000, stowed away under the floor of William E. Currier's store-house in Camden. The liquors were ordered destroyed and a fine imposed upon Mr. C. by the magistrate.

A. S. Merethew of Monroe, has swindled Mr. A. H. Mayo of the same town out of $50. He had a nugget of some kind of metal, and getting hard up, went to a Belfast jeweller and had it gilded and then palmed it off on Mr. Mayo as a nugget of gold.

Mrs. H. S. Lord, residing at Old Orchard Beach, was seriously injured Wednesday evening by being thrown down as she was alighting from a Boston & Maine train at that station. She was found lying insensible beside the track after the departure of the train.

The large copper shop in the Shaker Village, New Gloucester, was totally destroyed by fire last Wednesday morning. together with its contents, among which was some valuable machinery for making shooks, recently invented by Hewitt Chandler trustee of the Society.

Mr. Joseph Frost, a citizen of West Leeds, fell from a staging while at work clapboarding his house, a distance of ten feet, striking upon the end of a hogshead in such a manner as to injure him very badly internally. There are hopes of his recovery, although his condition seemed critical at the time of the accident.

At a convention held in Brooks. Thursday, composed of delegates from the agricultural societies in Waldo county, Peter W. Ayer, Esq., of Freedom, was elected a member of the Board of Agriculture for the ensuing term. The annual meeting of the Waldo County Dairymens' Association was also held at the same time.

Tuesday night the schooner Hattie Coombs of Rockland was run into by an unknown vessel off Mosquito Harbor. The stranger struck the Hattie near the main rigging, clearing the mainsail from the mast, breaking the main boom and gaff and cutting her to the water's edge. It was not ascertained whether the other vessel was injured or not.

A daughter of George D. Frost of Lisbon Falls five weeks ago was badly choked with a piece of corn, since which she has had a bad cough and difficult breathing. A few mornings since she had a violent fit of coughing and strangled badly. In the midst of her strangling a piece of a corn about as large as a pea flew out of her mouth. Her cough has now ceased, and the child is recovering.

The house of Martin Eaton, North Brunswick. Freeport road, was burned on Monday forenoon. The house and barn were entirely consumed, with the household goods of every description, a quantity of hay, fifty hens, sixty bushels of apples, &c., &c. The destruction was total, as the family live at a distance from neighbors, and were not able to secure anything of value from loss. No insurance.

## Items of General News.

It is rumored that General McDowell will be appointed Minister to Russia.

J. D. Wardell contests the election of C. H. Harrison to Congress in Illinois.

Gleed's brewery at Dubuque, Iowa, was burned Friday night. Loss $30,000.

Gate's tannery at Kalamazoo, Michigan, was burned Thursday. Loss $40,000.

It is reported that a serious revolution has broken out in the Republic of Uraguay.

Three children were drowned in Freeport N. Y., Friday. by venturing on thin ice.

Ten thousand tons of shipping sailed from St. John. Saturday to Europe with deals.

It is reported that gold placer diggings have been discovered near Salt Lake City.

It is said that Minister Washburne has written a letter denouncing the third term.

M. M. Lofters, Mayor of Scranton, Pa., was arrested Friday for perjury and admitted to bail.

The Rev. Mr. Glendenning was acquitted by the Jersey City Presbytery of the charges against him.

Collins's canning factory and jelly works at Lebanon, Del., were burned Thursday. Loss $50,000.

The State of Ohio has brought a suit against Hamilton county, to recover $660,000 of State taxes.

A clerk in the foreign department of Drexel & Co.'s bank in Philadelphia, is a defaulter in $26,000.

The sum necessary to maintain a German legation at the Vatican, has been stricken out of the budget.

Three negro incendiaries were taken from jail at Morganfield, Ky., Thursday, and hung by "regulators."

Putnam's granary and McGuire's foundry at Gloversdale, N. Y., were burned Saturday. Loss $30,000.

The St. John Laborers' Association have reduced their demand for loading vessels from $3 to $1,50 a day.

A Kingston, Jamaca, letter says that the damage on that island by the late typhoon reaches at least $850.000.

Joseph H. Bird of Gloucester, Mass., was washed overboard from a fishing vessel on the Georges, and drowned.

Ex-city treasurer Gage of Chicago has been acquitted of the charge of misappropriation of the public funds.

Russia has officially invited the leading powers to resume the inter-national conference recently held in Brussels.

Patrick Madden, charged with the murder of Hobert Lasalle at Fall River, Mass., surrendered himself to the police.

The navigation of the New York canals closed Thursday by official order. Lake navigation is virtually closed.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has unanimously passed a resolution in favor of granting an annuity to Garabaldi.

Michael Carley was killed in Lowell Mass., Thursday night, by being run over by a night cart, of which he was driver.

The packing-box makers of Brooklyn are on a strike against the reduction of wages and new hands have been employed.

Senor Castelar has been appointed Commissioner to represent Spain at the Centennial Exhibition in the United States.

The Montreal Star calls on the Catholic clergy to advocate vaccination in opposition to the French doctors, who oppose it.

Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon, formerly Governor of Trinidad, has been appointed to the Governership of the Fiji islands.

Manitoba has a new government with Hon. R. A. Davis at its head, The upper house of the Legislature has been abolished.

The Chespeake and Ohio railroad has paid the claims of the striking employes at Huntington, West Virginia and discharged them.

Paper undergarments for women have struck the Pacific coast from Japan and are likely soon to make their appearance this way.

M. Vermesch, formerly editor of the Pere Duchesne. the official journal of the Paris Commune, has been ordered to quit Belgium.

The Attorney General of Minnesota has brought a suit against ex-State Auditor McElrath for $94,000 withheld during his term of office.

Hon B. F. Dunkin, ex-Chief Justice of South Carolina and the oldest lawyer in the State, died Sundav. He was a native of Massachusetts.

The steamer Delta, ashore on Anticosti Island, has been condemned. The parties in charge will continue to save the cargo during the winter.

Montreal reports a death rate of 46 per thousand, the number of deaths the past eleven months being 5,290, of which 661 were small pox.

The steamer Tenio struck a sunken rock, Thursday last, at Devil's Bend, near Umatilo, Oregon, and sunk. The passengers and crew were saved.

Lewis Keenan was killed in Pawtucket R. I., Thursday, by the caving in of a cistern which he was cementing. He leaves a wife and two children.

Thomas B. Stockwell of Providence, has been elected commissioner of the public schools of Rhode Island, vice Thomas W. Bicknell, resigned.

The schooner Sanderson, which cleared at Chicago, Tuesday, for Buffalo, went ashore at the lower end of Lake Michigan. All of the crew were lost,

A Little Rock, Arkansas, special states that Lieut. Governor Smith and the former Secretary of State, Wheeler, have quietly left for Washington.

James Turner has been arrested for stealing jewelry, etc., from the store of the Sprague Company at Baltic, R. I. The property was recovered.

Intelligence has been received that the supporters of Prince Alphonse, son of ex-Queen Isabella, have made overtures to Marshal Serrano, but without success.

A Herald special reports from Rome that the Pope is perfectly well, and out-walks every one of his companions during his exercise in the Vatican garden.

The "Calaboose" at Pontiac, Ill., was burned Wednesday night. Frank and Samuel Downing, confined in the jail for disorderly conduct, were burned to death.

Queen Victoria was presented with four volumes of addresses, thanking her and England for their service to the sick and wounded of France in the late war.

The Dominion Parliament is further prorogued to January 18th. The revenues of the Dominion during November were $2,230,550, and the expenditures $1,884,780.

Since the fall of M. Thiers twenty-eight newspapers have been suppressed in France, twenty have suspended and 165 have been deprived of the right of sale in the streets.

Hon. Dudley S. Gregory, one of the wealthiest citizens of New Jersey, died Saturday at his residence in Jersey City. The deceased was a member of Congress in 1847.

The New York *World* says "the Catholics have a population of 311,000 in Boston," which is rather steep, considering the fact that the entire population of the city is only 320,000.

The Prussian Government has prohibited the use in elementary schools of Bishop Martin's Roman Catholic Catechism, which makes the Pope the supreme ruler of the universe.

The people of Wilton N.H., are discouraged in consequence of the recent fire and other calamities within five years, which have lost the town all of its manufacturing industries.

The state senator in Alabama whose vote secured Spencer a re-election to the United States Senate, has been ousted by the new state Senate on the ground that he was illegally elected.

Wm. Sturgess, the board of trade man who was recently tried for illegal practices by that body has settled with his creditors and has brought a suit against the president of the board for $25,000.

A mutiny on the ship United States at Pass L'Outre, occurred lately and one man was killed. The revenue cutter brought four of the crew to New Orleans. The ship was bound to Liverpool.

To avoid mortifying her lover's family, who are very poor, a Montreal heiress was married the other day in a plain Swiss muslin costing $20. But she had a splendid trosseau for use after the marriage.

Isaiah H. Johnson of Bedford, N. H., 70 years old, was found dead in his bed Saturday morning. Heart disease was the propable cause. He was formerly an old stage driver between Concord and Sandwich.

The long impending strike in the potteries at Trenton, N. J., began Thursday. The employers guaranteed work all winter at a reduction of ten per cent, in wages but the employes refused, with the above result.

A Washington despatch says that the Grand Trunk Railroad is hastening to pay the duties on cars loaded with merchandise which have been switched off to quiet places and unloaded without the aid of custom house officials.

A San Francisco dispatch says that Edward Wadden, editor of the Merced Tribune, was shot and killed Monday by a son of the editor of the San Joaquin Argus.—An attempt was made to lynch the murderer.

## The Markets.

### Brighton Cattle Market.

Wednesday, Dec. 9.

At market for the current week—Cattle 2231; Sheep and Lambs 6,394; Swine 8,700. Number of Western Cattle 1848. Northern Cattle and Working Oxen and Milch Cows, 350. Eastern Cattle 338.

Beef Cattle—Prices per 100 lbs. live weight, extra quality $7 25@7 75; first quality $6 75@7 12½; second quality $6 00@6 50; third quality $5 25@5 75; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c. $3 50@5 00.

Brighton Hides—9c ℘ lb.; Brighton Tallow 6¼@7c ℘ lb.

Country Hides—8½c ℘ lb.; Country Tallow 6c ℘ lb.

Calf Skins—14@15c ℘ lb. Sheep and Lamb Skins 75c@$1 25.

There were but a few more Western Cattle in market than there were one week ago. The quality upon an average not much different, and prices obtained the same as those of one week ago. There were a few very extra Cattle in. Mr. A. N. Monroe sold 8 very fine ones to J. F. Taylor, net 1902 lb, at 9c per lb live weight. Upon the common grades we do not think that there is any change, and the trade not as active as that of last market. There was a good supply of Cattle in from Maine, including some very good Beef Cattle.

Working Oxen.—Trade for Working Oxen has fallen off of late and the supply in market is not as large as has been coming in of late. We quote sales of 1 pr, gth 7 ft 4 in, 3450 lb $190; 1 pr, 7 ft 3300 lb $180; 1 pr, 6 ft 6 in, 2450 lbs, $140; 1 pr, 6 ft 8 in, 2500 lbs, $165; 1 pr, 6 ft 6 in, live weight, 2400 lbs, $135.

Store Cattle.—Yearlings $11@$15; two year olds $15@$27; three year olds $25@$45 ℘ head. Many of the small Cattle that are in a fair condition are sold for Beef. Most of the Store Cattle come from the Northern States and Maine.

Milch Cows.—Extra $55@95; ordinary $25@50; Store Cows $18@45 per head. There are but few extra or fancy breed of Cows offered in market for sale, most of them being of an ordinary grade.

Sheep and Lambs.—From the West the supply was light, all owned by one butcher. But few of the Western Sheep are offered in market for sale, generally being shipped to butchers from the North. There was a good supply and fair trade, prices ranging from 4½@7c per lb.

Swine.—No Store Pigs in market. Fat Hogs 3700 at market; prices 8@8½c per lb live weight.

### Wool Market.

Boston, Dec. 9.

There has been considerable excitement in the Wool market the past week. Some leading manufacturers who have been holding back for some time past have purchased round lots of fine fleeces, the sales of all kinds comprising about 2,000,000 lb for the week. In prices there is no material change to notice, but a much better feeling prevails, and for all desirable lots of fleece Wool the market has a decided upward tendency. The sales have been 700,000 lb Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces at 53@56c, including medium, X and XX; 400,000 lb Western and other fleeces at 49½@52c for Michigan; 45@52c for common and good Western and Wisconsin; 49c for New Hampshire and 54c for Maine; 120,000 lb combing and delaine fleeces at 54@62½c; 100,000 lb unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 30@42c; 300,000 lb California at 25@30c for spring, and 17@33c for fall; 175,000 lb super and X pulled at 37½@58c as to quality; 65,000 lb scoured at 55c@$100 and 10,000 lb tub washed at 55@60c per lb.

### Boston Market.

Boston, Dec. 9.

Flour and Grain.—The market for Flour is quiet but firm. We quote:

Western Superfine at $4 25@5 75; common extras at $5 00@5 50; Milwaukie and Minnesota extras at $5 50@6 00; white wheat Ohio, Indiana and Michigan at $5 50@6 50; Illinois at $5 75@7 00; St. Louis at $5 75@8 50 ℘ bbl. Southern Flour is quiet at $5 00@8 50 ℘ bbl. for common extras and choice family; and fancy Minnesota at $7 50@9 50 ℘ bbl. Corn is quiet at 92½@95c ℘ bush. for mixed and yellow. Oats are firm at 66@73c ℘ bush for brown and white. Rye $1 00@1 05 ℘ bush. Shorts, Fine Feed and Middlings at $24@31 ℘ ton.

Provisions.—Pork is steady; sales at $18 00@18 50 for prime; $22 00@22 50 for mess $25 50@27 00 ℘ bbl. for clear. Beef ranges from $10 50@13 50 mess and extra mess. and $15 50@16 00 ℘ bbl. for family. Lard 15½@15¾c ℘ lb. for city and Western. Smoked Hams 12@13c ℘ lb. Butter sells at 25@43c ℘ lb. and Cheese from 13@16c ℘ lb. as to quality.

Produce—White Beans are in moderate demand and dull, with sales at $1 90@1 95 for mediums, $2 25@2 62½ for Pea, and Yellow Eyes at $3@3 12½ per bush. Potatoes have been in demand, with sales at 75@80c per bush for Jackson Whites and Early Rose. Sweet potatoes have been selling at $3 25@3 50 per barrel. Onions have been in fair demand, with sales at $3@3 50 per bbl. Cranberries are selling at $6 50@8 per bbl. Green Apples are plenty, and the sales range from $1 25@2 ℘ bbl, as to quality. The shipments of the week have been quite large, mostly to Liverpool. Poultry has been rather dull, and the sales have ranged mostly from 15@20c per lb, for Chickens and Turkeys. Very choice Turkeys bring some advance on the latter rate. Eggs have been selling at 32@33c per dozen.

Hay—There is a fair demand, with sales of prime at $22@23 per ton, and common and medium grades from $16@20 per ton. Rye Straw has been selling at $30 per ton.

### New York Market.

New York, Dec. 9.

Cotton—Sales——bales—middling uplands @14½.

Flour—Sales 9,683 bbls.—State $3 00@3 80; Round Hoop Ohio, $5 10@6 85; Western $4 75@5 10; Southern $5 00@4 75.

Wheat—Sales 76,000 bush. No. 2 Milwaukie, $1 14@1 15; No. 3, $1 07@—; No. 1, Chicago, $1 24@1 31; No. 2, $1 11@1 12; No. 2, Mixed, $1 44; No. 3, $1 50; Winter Red, $1 20@1 25; Amber, $1 25@1 27; No. 1, Iowa, $1 03@1 26; White Michigan, $1 36@1 40; Winter Western, $1 15@1 26.

Corn—Sales 92,800 bushels. Western 90@92½.

Oats—Sales 95,000 bushels—Western 69@71.

Pork—Sales 100 bbls. New Mess, $21 50.

Lard—Steam, 13½c; Kettle, 13½c.

Sugar—Refining, 8@9¼; No. 12, Ds. 8.

### Gold and Stock Market.

New York, Dec. 9.

Gold closed at 1 10⅞.

Money closed at 2½@3 per cent.

United States Sixes (coupons) 1881 119¼; 5.20's 1862, 112½; 1864, 114¼; 1865, 116¼; 1865 (January and July), 118¼; 1867, 119¼; 1868, 119½; New 5's, 112¼; 10.40's (coupons), 113¼; Currency, 116¼.

### Augusta City Market.

Thursday, Dec. 10.

Apples—Good winter fruit is in plenteous supply, and prices are unchanged—the market being well established at $2 00@2 25 per bbl.

Butter—Of good quality is brought into market freely at 33@35c—in a very few instances going a few cents above this for extra lots.

Beans—Although no difference is made in the price, Yellow Eyes are preferred to Pea in market. Our quotations for both being $2 50@2 75.

Cheese—Factory 14c at wholesale; domestic 12@14c.

Flour—We now quote:—Superfine to common extra, $7 00@8 00; very good brands, $8 00@8 50; choice Western $8 50@9 00; St. Louis favorite brands $11 00@12 00.

Grain—Corn $1 10: new oats, 50@60c; old oats, 75c. ℘ bushel.

Hay—Sales of loose, (early cut and of good quality,) made during the past week at $15. Straw, loose, $7.

Hides and Skins—Hides, 7@7½c; calf skins, 13@15c; wool skins and lamb skins 75c@$1 25.

Lime—$1 35 ℘ bushel.

Meal—Corn $1 10; rye $1 75 ℘ bushel.

Produce—Potatoes 45@50c; eggs 30@32c; lard 18c.

Shorts—$2 00 ℘ one hundred pounds.

Provisions—Clear salt pork, $28@30, ℘ 200 lbs; beef ℘ side 8@10c; round hog 9@10c; ham 14@16c; turkeys 15@18c; spring lamb 8@9c; veals 7@8c; mutton 7@8c; spring chickens 17@18c; geese 15@18c.

Wool—Medium to fine, washed 40@45c; unwashed one fourth discount.

Wood—Hard wood, seasoned under cover, $6 00@8 00 ℘ cord; mill wood, delivered, $4 ℘ cord.

### Portland Market.

Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Apples—Green $2 00@3 00; dried 12@13c for Western; 14@16c for Eastern.

Beans—We quote hand-picked pea beans at $2 75@3 00; yellow eyes, $2 75@3 00.

Butter—Selling at 30@42c for family. Store, from 20@25c ℘ lb.

Cheese—Factory is selling at 16¼@17c ℘ lb; Vermont and New York Dairy, 14@15.

Fish—We quote large shore $5 25@5 50; large bank $5 00@5 25; small $3 75@4 25; pollock $3 00@4 00; hake $2 75@3 00 ℘ qtl; herring $4 25@5 00 ℘ bbl; scaled, ℘ box, 30@37c; mackerel ℘ bbl—Bay No. 3 to No. 1, $7 50@15 00; Shore Nos. 1 and 2, $11 00@15 00.

Flour—We quote Superfine, $5 00@5 50; Spring X and XX, $6 25@7 75; Michigan Winter X and XX, $7 00@8 50; Illinois X and XX, $6 75@9 00; St. Louis X and XX, $8 25@10 00.

Grain—We quote mixed Corn at $1 08 and yellow 1 00@1 03. Oats are now worth 68@70c, fine feed at $35 ℘ ton, ane shortsat $32 ℘ ton.

Hay—Loose, $16 00@20 00 ℘ ton for prime. Pressed selling at $16 00@18 00. Baled Straw $17 ℘ ton for prime.

Lard—Prime Western ℘ tierce, 16¼@16c ℘ lb; per keg 16@18; pail 18c.

Plaster—White, ℘ ton, $3 00; blue $2 75; ground in bbls $8 00@9 00; calcined in bbls $2 75.

Produce—We quote beef side at 9@13c; veal 8@10; mutton 12@13c; chickens 12@18c; turkeys 18@22c; eggs 27@29c; potatoes 50@60c ℘ bush; onions $3 25@3 50 ℘ bbl. Round hogs, 8@9. Cranberries per bbl $8@9.

Provisions—We quote as follows: Mess beef, Chicago. $12 00@13 50; plate $15 00; extra plate $17 00@17 50; pork backs, $28; clear, $27 00; mess $24 00. Hams 12@12c.

### Bangor Produce Market.

Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Beans—Yellow eyes $2 75@2 80 ℘ bush; hand-picked pea beans $2 50 ℘ bush.

Butter—Is worth from 25@35c ℘ lb, according to quality.

Eggs—Selling at 28c ℘ dozen.

Hay—Best qualities loose sell at $10 00@15 00 ℘ ton and pressed at $13 00@16.

Grain—Oats are now worth 69c ℘ bush; corn $1 00@1 05 ℘ bush.

Potatoes—Selling in the market at 65@68c ℘ bushel.

Provisions—Good fresh beef, by the side worth 8@11c ℘ lb; round hogs 10@11c; lamb 10c.

Hides and Skins—Lambs pelts $1 00@1 25 each. Hides 7@7½c ℘ lb.

District of Columbia. The report of the Commissioners appointed to wind up the affairs ot the District of Columbir shows that the net debt of the District of Columbia, less securities on hand and available, is: Bonded debt issued prior to July 1st, 1874, $888,394,043; 3,65 bonds act of Congress June 20th 1874, $208,816, 873 certificates of the Board of Audit, $487,055,845; total, $1,574, 266,761—less special improvements assessments, chargeable to private property in excess of any demand against such assessments, $164,405.437; less Chesapeake and Ohio Canal bonds, $75,000, and Washington & Alexandria Railroad bonds, $59,000. In the hands of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund are $174,805,437, leaving the actual debt, less said assets, $1,399,461,324. In addition to this there are claims preferred against the government of the District amounting in the estimated aggregate reported by the Board of Audit, to $341,778,748, of which the greater part will probably be rejected.

☞The report of George S. Bangs, Superintendent of the Railway Postal Service, shows that at the close of the fiscal year there were in operation fifty-nine lines of railway post-office cars, extending over 14,866 miles of railroad, in which were performed 34,925 miles of service daily, and 12,747,625 annually, by 752 clerks. These clerks are classified as follows: 283 head clerks, 379 clerks and 90 assistant clerks. New York sends out fifty-five to sixty tons of matter daily; forty-five to fifty tons of this is forwarded on trunk lines leading to the west and southwest. He favors the establishment of a fast and exclusive mail train between Chicago and New York. The expense of railway service is $1,692,620.

☞Ladies prefer Eureka Machine twist on account of its superior strength, smoothness and elasticity.

## The President's Message.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives:*

**The Financial Situation.**

Since the convening of Congress one year ago the nation has undergone a prostration in business and industries such has not been witnessed with us for many years. Speculation as to the causes for this prostration might be indulged in without profit, because as many theories would be advanced as there would be independent writers, those who expressed their own views without borrowing upon the subject. Without indulging theories as to the cause of this prostration, therefore, I will call your attention only to the fact and to some positions as to which it would seem there would be no disagreement. During this prostration two special elements of prosperity have been most abundant, labor and capital. Both have been largely unemployed. Where security had been undoubted, capital has been attainable at very moderate rates. Where labor has been wanted it has been found in abundance at cheap rates, compared with what of the necessaries of life could be purchased with the wages demanded. Two great elements of prosperity, therefore, have not been denied us. A third might be added: Our soil and climate are unrivaled within the limits of any contiguous territory under one nationality for its variety of products to feed and clothe people, and in the amount of surplus to spare to feed less favored people. Therefore, with these facts in view it seems to me that wise statesmanship at this session of Congress would dictate legislation, ignoring the past, directing in proper channels these great elements of prosperity to any people.

The debt abroad is the only element that can, with always a sound currency, enter into our affairs to cause any continued depression in the industries and prosperity of our people. A great conflict for national existence made necessary for temporary purposes the raising of large sums of money from whatever source attainable in the wisdom of Congress. I do not doubt their wisdom in the premises regarding the necessity of the times to devise a system of national currency which it proved to be impossible to keep on a par with the recognized currency of the civilized world.

This begot a spirit of speculation involving an extravagance and luxury not required for the happiness and the prosperity of a people, and involving both directly and indirectly foreign indebtedness. The currency being of fluctuating value, and therefore unsafe to hold for legitimate transactions requiring money, became a subject of speculation in itself. These two causes however, have involved us in a foreign indebtedness contracted in good faith by borrower and lender, which should be paid in coin and according to the bond agreed upon when the debt was contracted, gold, or its equivalent. The good faith of the Government cannot be violated towards creditors without national disgrace, but our commerce should be encouraged, American shipbuilding and carrying capacity increased, foreign markets sought for products of the soil and manufactories, to the end that we may be able to pay these debts where a new market can be created for the sale of our products, either of the soil, the mine or the manufactory. A new means is discovered of utilizing our idle capital and labor to the advantage of the whole people, but in my judgment the first step toward accomplishing this object is to secure a currency good wherever civilization reigns, which, if it becomes superabundant with one people, will find a market with some other. A currency which has as its basis the labor necessary to produce it, which will give to it its value. Gold and silver are now the recognized mediums of exchange the civilized world over, and to this we should return with the least practicable delay. In view of the pledges of the American Congress, when our present legal tender system was adopted and the debt contracted there should be no delay, certainly no unnecessary delay in fixing, by legislation, a method by which we will return to specie. To the accomplishment of this end I invite your special attention. I believe firmly that there can be no prosperous and permanent revival of business and industries until a policy is adopted with legislation to carry it out looking to a return to specie basis. It is easy to conceive that the debtors and speculative class may think it of value to them to make the so-called money abundant until they throw a portion of their burdens upon others, but even these I believe, would be disappointed in the result if a course should be pursued, which will keep in doubt the value of the legal tender medium of exchange. A revival of the protective industries is needed by all classes, and by none more than the holder of property, of whatever sort, with debts to liquidate from the realization upon its sale. But admitting that these two classes of citizens are to be benefitted by the expansion, would it be honest to give it? Would not the general loss be too great to justify such belief? Would it not be just as honest and prudent to authorize each debtor to issue his own legal tender to the extent of his liabilities than to do this? Would it not be safer for fear of an overissue by unscrupulous creditors to say that all debt obligations are obliterated in the United States and now we commence anew, each possessing all he has at the time free from incumbrance. These propositions are too absurd to be entertained for a moment by thinking or honest people. Yet every delay in preparation for final resumption partakes of this dishonesty, and is only less in degree as the hope is held out that a convenient season will at last arrive for the good work of redeeming our pledges to commerce. It will never come in my opinion except by positive action by Congress, or by national disaster, which will destroy for a time at least the credit of the individual and the State at large.

A sound currency might be reached by total bankruptcy and discredit of the integrity of the nation and of individuals. I believe it is in the power of Congress at this session to devise such legislation as will renew confidence, revive all the industries, start on a career of prosperity to last for many years and to save the credit of the nation and of the people.

Steps toward the return to a specie basis are the great requisites to this devotedly to be sought for end. There are others which I may touch upon hereafter. A nation dealing in a currency below that of specie in value labors under two great disadvantages. First—Having no use for the world's acknowledged mediums of exchange, gold and silver. These are driven out of the country because there is no demand for their use. Second—The medium of exchange in use being of a fluctuating value—for after all it is only worth the price what it will purchase of gold and silver metals—having an intrinsic value just in proportion to the honest labor it takes to produce them. A larger margin must be allowed for profit by the manufacturer and producer. It is months from the date of realization. Interest upon capital must be charged, and the risk of fluctuation in the value of that which is to be received in payment added. Hence the high prices acting as a protection to the foreign producer, who receives nothing in exchange for the product of his skill and labor, except a currency, good at a staple value, the world over.

It seems to me nothing is clearer than that the greater part of the burden of existing prostration, for the want of a sound financial system, falls upon the working man, who must, after all, produce the wealth, and the salaried man who superintends and conducts the business. The burden falls upon them in two ways—by the deprivation of employment, and by the decreased purchasing power of their salaries. It is the duty of Congress to devise the method of correcting the evils which are acknowledged to exist, but I would venture to suggest two or three things which seem to me as absolutely necessary to a return to specie payments.

**Requirements for Specie Payments.**

The first great requirement is a return to prosperity. The legal-tender clause to the law authorizing the issue of currency by the National Government should be repealed, to take effect as to all contracts entered into after a day named in the repealing act: not to apply, to the payment of salaries by government, or for other expenditures now provided by law to be paid in currency in the interval pending between the repeal and final resumption. Provision should be made by which the Secretary of the Treasury can obtain gold as it may become necessary from time to time from the date when specie redemption commences; and to this might and should be added a revenue sufficiently in excess of the expenses, to insure an accumulation of gold in the treasury to sustain redemption. I commend this subject to your careful consideration, believing that a favorable solution is attainable, and, that if reached by this Congress, that the present and future generations will ever gratefully remember it as their delivery from a thraldom of evil and disgrace. With resumption, free banking may be authorised with safety, giving full protection to billholders, which they have not under existing laws. Indeed, I would regard free banking as essential.—It would give proper elasticity to the currency, as more currency should be required for the transaction of legitimate business. New banks would be started, and in turn the banks would wind up their business when it was found that there was a superabundance of currency.

**Our Foreign Relations.**

The correspondence submitted herewith between this Government and its diplomatic representatives, as also with the representatives of other countries, shows a satisfactory condition of all questions between the United States and most of those countries, and with few exceptions, to which reference is hereafter made, the absence of any points of difference to be adjusted.

During the past year nothing has occurred to disturb the general friendly and cordial relations of the United States with other powers.

The correspondence submitted herewith between this Government and its diplomate representatives, as also with the representatives of other countries, shows a satisfactory condition of all questions between the United States and the most of those countries, and with few exceptions, to which reference is hereafter made, the absence of any points of difference to be adjusted.

The President here refers to the termination of the treaty between this country and Belgium on the first of July, 1875, by which certain Belgium vessels entering our ports had certain privileges not accorded to our own vessels. He also states that the amount of the Geneva award was paid into the United States Treasury, on the 24th of September last, and renews his recommendation for a special court to hear and determine all claims.

There has been no change in the relations between the United States, China, Japan, Mexico or the Argentine Republic.

The President announces that no further payment has been received from the Government of Venezuela, on account of awards in favor of the United States. He says of the deplorable strife in Cuba, that it has continued for six years without marked changes in the relative advantage of the contending forces which gives the insurrection a significance which cannot be denied. He refers to the civil war in Spain, which retards the settlement of differences between that country and this.

**Expatriation of Nationalists.**

I have again to call the attention of Congress to the unsatisfactory condition of existing laws with reference to expatriation and the election of nationality. Formerly amid conflicting opinions and decisions it was difficult to exactly determine how far the doctrine of perpetual allegiance was applicable to citizens of the United States. Congress by the act of the 27th of July, 1868, asserted the abstract right of expatriation as a fundamental principle of this Government. Notwithstanding such assertions and the necessity of frequent application of the principles, no legislation has been had defining what acts or formalities shall work expatriation, or when a citizen has been deemed to have renounced, or to have lost his citizenship. The importance of such definition is obvious. The representatives of the United States in foreign countries are continually called upon to lend their aid and the protection of the United States to persons, concerning the good faith or the reality of whose citizenship there is at least great question. In some cases the provisions of treaties furnish some guide, in others it is left to benefit persons claiming citizenship while living in a foreign country contributing in no manner to the performance of the duties of a citizen of the United States, and without the intention at any time to return and undertake those duties; to use the claims of citizenship of the United States simply as a shield from the performance of the obligations of a citizen elsewhere. The status of children born of American parents residing in a foreign country; of American women who have married aliens; of American citizens residing abroad where such question is not regulated by treaty; are all sources of frequent difficulty and discussion. Legislation on these and similar questions, and particularly defining when and under what circumstances expatriation can be accomplished, it is to be presumed is especially needed.

**Fraudulent Naturalization.**

In this connection I earnestly call the attention of Congress to the difficulties arising from fraudulent naturalization. The United States wisely, freely and liberally offers its citizenship to all who may come in good faith to reside within its limits, on their complying with certain prescribed reasonable and simple formalities and conditions. Among the highest duties of the Government is that to afford firm, efficient and equal protection to all its citizens, whether native born or naturalized. Care should be taken that a right, carrying with it such support from the Government, should not be fraudulently obtained, and should be bestowed only upon full proof of a compliance with the law, and yet frequent instances of illegal and fraudulent naturalization, and of the unauthorized use of certificates are thus improperly obtained. In some cases, the prevalent character of the naturalization has appeared upon the face of the certificate itself. In others, examination discloses that the holder had not complied with the law, and in others, certificates have been obtained where the persons holding them were not only entitled to be naturalized, but had not been within the United States at the time of the pretended naturalization. Instances of each of these classes of fraud are discovered at our Legations, where the certificates of naturalization are presented, either for the purpose of obtaining passports or in demanding the protection of the Legation. When the fraud is apparent on the faces of such certificates they are taken up by representatives of the Government and forwarded to the Department of State. But even then the record of the Court in which the fraudulent naturalization occurred, remains, and duplicate certificates are readily obtainable. Upon the presentation of these for the issue of passports, or demanding protection of the Government, the fraud sometimes escapes notice, and such certificates are not unfrequently used in the transaction of business to the deception and injury of innocent parties. Without placing any additional obstacles in the way of obtainment of citizenship by the worthy and well-intentioned foreigner who comes in good faith to cast his lot with ours, I earnestly recommend further legislation to punish fraudulent naturalization, and to secure the ready cancellation of the record of every naturalization made in fraud.

**Treaties Formed.**

Since my last annual message the exchange has been made of the ratification of the treaties of extradition with Belgium, Ecuador, Peru and Salvador; also of a treaty of commerce and navigation with Peru, and one of commerce and consular privileges with Salvador, all of which have been duly proclaimed, as has also a declaration with Russia with reference to trademarks.

**The Treasury Department.**

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, which by law is made directly to Congress and forms no part of this message, will show the receipts and expenditures of the Government for the last fiscal year; the amount received from each source of revenue, and the amount paid out for each of the departments of the Government. It will be observed from this report that the amount of receipts over expenditures has been $2,344,882.30 for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1874, and that for the current fiscal year the estimated receipts over expenditures will not much exceed nine millions of dollars. In view of the large national debt existing and the obligation to add one per cent. per annum to the sinking fund, a sum amounting now to over thirty-four millions per annum, I submit whether the revenues should not be increased or expenditures diminished to reach this amount of surplus. Not to provide for the sinking fund is a partial failure to comply with the contracts and obligations of the Government. At the last session of Congress a very considerable reduction was made in the rates of taxation and in the number of articles submitted to taxation. The question may well be asked whether or not in some instances unwisely.

In connection with this subject, too, I venture the opinion that the means of collecting the revenues, especially from imports, have been so embarrassed by legislation as to make it questionable whether or not large amounts are not lost by failure to collect, to the direct loss of the Treasury, and to the prejudice of the interests of honest importers and taxpayers.

The Secretary of the Treasury in his report, favors legislation looking to an early return to specie payments, thus supporting the views previously expressed in this message. He also recommends economy in appropriations, calls attention to the loss of revenue from repealing the tax on tea and coffee without benefit to consumers; recommends an increase of ten cents a gallon on whiskey, and further, that no modification be made on the currency and banking bills passed at the last session of Congress, unless modification should become necessary by reason of the adoption of measures for returning to specie payments. In these recommendations I cordially join.

**The Army.**

The report of the Secretary of War, herewith attached, and forming part of this message, gives all the information concerning the operations, condition and necessities of the army, and contains many suggestions and recommendations which I commend to your special attention. There is no class of government employes who are harder worked than the army officers and men—none who perform their tasks more cheerfully and efficiently and under circumstances of greater privation and hardship. Legislation is desirable to render more effective this branch of the public service.

All the recommendations of the Secretary of War I regard as judicious, and especially commend to your attention the following: The consolidation of government arsenals; the restoration of mileage to officers traveling under orders; the exemption of money received from the sale of subsistence stores from being covered into the Treasury; the use of appropriations for the purchase of subsistence stores without waiting for the beginning of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is made; for additional appropriation for the collection of torpedo material; for increased appropriations for the manufacture of arms; for relieving the various States from indebtedness for arms charged to them during the rebellion; for dropping officers from the rolls of the army without trial; for the offence of drawing pay more than once for the same period; for the discouragement of the plan to pay soldiers by checks and for the establishment of a professorship of rhetoric and English literature at West Point. The reasons for these recommendations are obvious and are sufficiently set forth in the report. I also recommend that the status of the staff corps of the army be fixed, where this has not already been done, so that promotions may be made and vacancies filled as they occur in each grade, when reduced below the number required by law. The necessity for such legislation is specially felt now in the pay department. The number of officers in that department is below the number adequate to the performance of the duties required of them by law.

**The Navy.**

The efficiency of the navy has been largely increased during the last year. Under the impulse of the foreign complications which threatened us at the commencement of the last session of Congress, many of our efficient wooden ships were put in condition for immediate service, and the repairs of our iron clad fleet were pushed with the utmost vigor. The result is that the most of these are now in effective condition, and need only to be manned and put into commission to go into service at once.

Some of the new sloops authorized by Congress are already in commission and more of the remainder are launched and wait only the completion of their machinery to enable them to take their places as part of our effective force. Two torpedo ships have been completed during the last year, and four of our large double turreted iron clads are now undergoing repairs.

When these are finished everything that is useful of our navy, as now authorized, will be in condition for service, and with the advance in the science of torpedo warfare, the American navy, comparatively small as it is, will be found at any time powerful for the purposes of a peaceful nation.

**Scientific Surveys, &c.**

Much has been accomplished during the year in aid of science and to increase the sum of general knowledge, and further the interests of commerce and civilization. Extensive and much needed soundings have been made for hydrographic purposes and to fix the proper route of ocean telegraphs. Further surveys of the Great Isthmus have been undertaken and completed, and two vessels of the navy are now employed in conjunction with those of England, France, Germany and Russia in observations connected with the transit of Venus, so useful and interesting to the scientific world. The estimates for this branch of the public service do not differ materially from those of last year, those for the general support of the service being somewhat less, and those for permanent improvement at the various stations rather larger than the corrresponding estimate made a a year ago.

**The Louisiana Outbreak.**

Your attention will be drawn to the unsettled condition of affairs in some of the Southern States. On the 14th of September last the Governor of Louisiana called upon me as provided by the Constitution and laws of the United States to aid in suppressing domestic violence in that State. This call was made in view of a proclamation issued on that day, D. B. Penn claiming that he was elected Lieutenant-Governor in 1872, and calling upon the militia of the State to arm, assemble and drive from power the usurpers, as he designated the officers of the State Government. On the next day I issued my proclamation commanding the insurgents to disperse within five days from the date thereof, and subsequently learned that on that day they had taken forcible possession of the State House. Troops were taken by me to support the existing and recognized State Government. But before the expiration of the five days the insurrectionary movement was practically abandoned, and the officers of the State Government, with some minor exceptions, resumed their powers and duties. Considering the present State administration of Louisiana has been the only Government in that State for two years; that it has been tacitly acknowledged and acquiesced in as such by Congress, and more than once expressly recognized by me, I regarded it as my clear duty, when legally called on for that purpose. to prevent its overthrow by an armed mob, under the pretence of fraud and irregularity in the election of 1872. I have heretofore called the attention of Congress to this subject, stating that on account of frauds and forgeries committed at said election, and because it appears that the returns thereof were never legally canvassed, it was impossible to tell thereby who were chosen, but from the best sources at my command I have always believed the present State officers received a majority of the legal votes actually cast.

I repeat what I said in my special message of Feb. 13th, 1873, that in the event of no action by Congress I must continue to recognize the Government heretofore recognized by me.

**Intimidation of Voters in the Southern States.**

I regret to say that with preparations for the election decided indications appeared in some localities in the Southern States of a determination by acts of violence and intimidation to deprive citizens of the freedom of the ballot because of their political opinions. Bands of men masked and armed made their appearance, White Leagues and other societies were formed, large quantities of arms and ammunition were imported and distributed to the organizations; military drills, with menacing demonstrations, were held, and with all these, murders enough were committed to spread terror among those whose political action was to be suppressed, if possible, by these proceedings. In some places colored laborers were compelled to vote according to the views of their employers under threat of discharge if they acted otherwise; and there are too many instances in which, where these threats were disregarded, they were remorselessly executed by those who made them. I understand the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution was made to prevent the like state of things, and the act of May 31st, 1870, with amendments, was passed to enforce its provisions, the object of this being to guarantee to all citizens the right to vote and protect them in the full enjoyment of that right. Enjoined by the Constitution to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and convinced by undoubted evidence that violations of said act have been committed and that a widespread and flagrant disregard of it was contemplated, the proper officers were instructed to prosecute the offenders, and troops were stationed at convenient points to aid them if necessary in the performance of their official duties. Complaints are made of this inteference by Federal authority, but if said amendment and act do not provide for such interference under the circumstances as above stated, then they are without meaning, force and effect, and the whole scheme of colored enfranchisement is worse than mockery and little better than a crime. Possibly Congress may find it due to truth and justice to ascertain by means of a committee who can hear both parties, whether all the alleged wrongs of colored citizens for political reasons are real, or whether the reports thereof were manufactured for the occasion.

The whole number of troops in the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Maryland and Virginia, at the time of the election, was 4082. These embrace the garrisons of all the forts from the Delaware to the Gulf of Mexico.

**The Troubles in Arkansas.**

Another trouble has arisen in Arkansas—Article 13 of the Constitution of that State, which was adopted in 1868, and upon the approval of which by Congress the State was restored to representation as one of the States of the Union, provides that in effect before any amendments proposed to the Constitution shall become a part of it, they shall be passed by two successive assemblies and then submitted to and ratified by a majority of the electors of the State, voting thereon. On the 11th of May, 1874, the Governor convened an extra session of the General Assembly of the State, which on the 18th of the same month passed an act providing for a Convention to frame a new Constitution pursuant to this act, and at an election held on June 30th, 1874, the Convention was approved and delegates were chosen thereto, who assembled on the 9th of last July and formed a new Constitution, the schedule of which provided for the election of an entire set of State officers in a manner contrary to the then existing election laws of the State. On October 13th, 1874, this Constitution, as therein provided, was submitted to the people for their approval or rejection, and according to the election returns was approved by a large majority of those qualified to vote thereon, and at the same election persons were chosen to fill all the State, county and township offices. The Governor elected in 1872 for the term of four years turned over his office to the Governor chosen under the new constitution. whereupon the Lieut. Governor, also elected in 1872 for a term of four years, claimed to act as Governor, and alleging that said proceedings by which the new constitution was made and a new set of officers elected, were unconstitutional, illegal and void, called upon me as provided in section 4, article 4, of the Constitution, to protect the State against domestic violence. As Congress is now investigating the political affairs of Arkansas I have declined to interfere. The whole subject of Executive interference with the affairs of a State is repugnant to public opinion, to the feeling of those who from their official capacity must be used in such interposition, and to him or those who must direct. Unless most clearly on the side of the laws, such interference becomes a crime. I desire, therefore, that all necessity for executive direction in local affairs may become unnecessary and obsolete.

**Causes of the Southern Troubles.**

I invite the attention not only of Congress, but of the people of the United States to the causes and effects of these unhappy questions. Is there not a disposition on one side to magnify wrongs and outrages, and on the other to belittle them? If public opinion could be directed to a correct survey of what is, and to rebuking wrong and aiding the proper authorities in punishing it, a better state of feeling would be inculcated, and the sooner we would have that peace which would leave the State free indeed to regulate their own affairs.

I believe that on the part of our citizens of the Southern States, the better part of them, there is a disposition to be law-abiding and do no violence either to individuals or to the laws existing; but do they do right in ignoring the existence of violence and bloodshed in resistance to constituted authority? I sympathize with their prostrate condition and would do all in my power to relieve them, acknowledging that in some instances they have had most trying Governments to live under, and very oppressive ones in the way of taxation for nominal improvements not giving benefits equal to the hardships imposed; but can they proclaim themselves entirely irresponsible for this condition? They cannot. Violence has been rampant in some localities, and has either been justified or denied by those who could have prevented it.

The theory is even raised that there is to be no further interference on the part of the General Government to protect citizens within a State where the State authorities fail to give protection. This is a great mistake. While I remain Executive all the laws of Congress and the provisions of the Constitution, including the recent amendments added thereto, will be enforced with vigor, but with regret that they should have added one jot or tittle to the executive duties or powers. Let there be fairness in the discussion of Southern questions; the advocates of both or all political parties giving honest, truthful reports of occurrences, condemning the wrong and upholding the right, and soon all will be well. Under the existing conditions the negro votes the Republican ticket because he knows his friends are of the party. Many a good citizen votes the opposite, not because he agrees with the great principles of State which separate parties, but because generally he is opposed to the negro rule. This is a most delusive cry. Treat the negro as a citizen and voter, as he is and must remain, and soon parties will be divided, not on the color line, but on principle. Then we shall have no complaint of sectional interference.

**Civil Service Reform.**

The rules adopted to improve the Civil Service of the Government have been adherred to as closely as has been practicable with the opposition with which they meet. The effect, I believe, has been beneficial on the whole, and has tended to the elevation of the service, but it is impracticable to maintain them without the direct and positive support of Congress. Generally the support which this reform receives is from those who give it their support only to find fault when the rules are apparently departed from. The removals from office, without prefering charges against the parties removed, are frequently cited as a departure from the rules adopted, and the retention of those against whom charges are made by irresponsible persons and without good grounds, is also often condemned as a violation of them. Under these circumstances, therefore, I announce that if Congress adjourns without positive legislation on the subject of "civil service reform," I will regard such action as a disapproval of the system, and will abandon it, except so far as to require examination for certain appointees to determine their fitness. Competitive examinations will be abandoned. The gentlemen who have given their services without compensation as members of the Board to devise rules and regulations for the government of the Civil Service of the country, have shown much zeal and earnestness in this work, and to them, as well as to myself, it will be a source of mortification if it is to be thrown away. But I repeat that it is impossible to carry the system to a successful issue without the general approval and assistance, and positive law to support it.

**The Financial Problem.**

I have stated that three elements of prosperity to the nation—capital, labor skilled and unskilled and products of the soil—still remain with us. To direct the employment of these is a problem deserving the most serious attention of Congress. If employment can be given to all labor offering itself prosperity necessarily follows. I have expressed the opinion and repeat it that the first requisite to the accomplishment of this end is the substitution of a sound currency in place of a fluctuating value. This secured, there are many interests that might foster to the great profit of both labor and capital. How to induce capital to employ labor is the question.

**Various Topics.**

The President recommends that the names of the survivors of the war of 1812, residing in the rebellious States be placed upon the pension rolls.

He adheres to the peace policy in the management of the Indians, claiming that its results are highly satisfactory.

In relation to the department of Law, he recommends an increase in the number of judicial districts in the United States from nine to eleven.

For a complete statement of the affairs of the post office department he refers to the reports of the Postmaster General, an abstract of which we have already published.

Respecting the shipping interests, he says that the United States is now paying over $100,000,000 per annum for freight and passage on foreign ships, to be carried abroad and expended there. To remedy this, he does not recommend a direct subsidy to American steamship lines, but an offer of ample compensation for carrying the foreign mails on American built and American owned steamers,

He announces the completion of the labor of the Commissioners appointed to survey and mark the boundary between the British possessions and the United States, known as the Northwestern boundary.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT,
Executive Mansion, Dec. 7th, 1874.

## Congressional Summary.

### Forty-Third Congress.

MONDAY, Dec. 7.

SENATE. In the Senate, Vice President Wilson called the Senate to order at noon. Resolutions informing the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to business and that the hour of meeting would be 12 o'clock were passed. Senators Conkling and Thurman were appointed a commitee to join the House committee in informing the President that Congress is ready to receive any communication. Mr. Morrill of Maine from the Joint Select Committee to frame a government for the District of Columbia submitted a report accompanied by sundry statutes for the organization of such government. Laid on the table. The certificate of the election of Geo. F. Edmunds, Senator from Vermont, and Wm. W. Eaton, Senator from Connecticut, were read and placed on file.

The message of the President was received, read and ordered to be printed, with the accompanying documents.

HOUSE. The Speaker's hammer fell at noon and the roll call showed a presence of 238 out of 301 members. Four new members, Schell and Chittenden of New York, Carpenter of South Carolina, and Finch of Ohio, came forward, had the oath administered, and took their seats.

Mr. Phelps asked unanimous consent for immediate consideration of a bill to repeal the law known as the "press gag law,"

Mr. Hale of N. Y. objected.

The reading of the message, which was listened to with remarkable attention, concluded at 2 45; then on motion of Mr. Dawes of Mass., it was ordered printed.

Mr. Tyner of Ind., reported a bill apppropriating $30,000 for the purchase of scales for the use of the Post office Department in executing the law requiring prepayment of postage on newspapers.

Mr. Phelps of New Jersey gave notice he would next Monday, if he got the floor, move to suspend the rules and pass the bill he sought to introduce and pass to-day to repeal the press gag law. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, Dec. 8.

SENATE. Several bills were introduced and laid on the table till the committees were appointed, including the following: A bill amending the act imposing taxes on the circulation of other than national banks; a bill fixing the salary of the President of the United States; a bill for the construction of a government telegraph from Boston to Washington.

Mr. Scott of Pennsylvania, presented the memorial of J. P. Lippincott & Co., A. S. Merriman and T. S. Arthur of Philadelphia, praying that the postage upon periodicals be fixed at two cents per pound; that the payment by fractional stamps or stamped wrappers, when desired, be authorized and that the rates of transient matter sent from the office of publication be fixed at two cents per pound. Laid on the table.

HOUSE. Mr. Poland of Vermont, presented a report of the testimony in the Arkansas troubles, which was ordered to be printed.

A bill was passed which was reported from the Banking Committee, reducing allowances to bank examiners.

Mr. Beck of Kentucky presented a bill to prohibit Senators, Representives and delegates in Congress from acting as counsel or otherwise in suits or proceedings against the United States.

The bill having been amended at the suggestion of Mr. G. F. Hoar by omitting from the penalty a provision for disqualification for holding office, was passed.

Wednesday, Dec. 9.

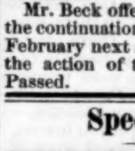
SENATE. On motion of Mr. Anthony, the standing committees were elected, being the same as last year. The commitees on rules transportation routes, and on Mississippi levees were added to the regular committees.

HOUSE. The House then took up the bill to continue the board of audit to examine and audit the floating debt of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Beck offered an amendment limiting the continuation of the board to the 15th of February next and requiring a full report of the action of the board before that date Passed.

## Special Notices.

**Centaur Liniments**



allay pain, subdue swellings, heal burns, and will cure rheumatism, spavin, and any flesh, bone or muscle ailment. The White Wrapper is for family use; the Yellow Wrapper is for animals. Price 50 cents; large bottles $1. 1y20

**Children Cry for Castoria.**—Pleasant to take—a perfect substitute for Castor Oil, but more efficacious in regulating the stomach and bowels. 1y20

**About Bitters.**—At certain periods of life a tonic is a necessity; but there is danger in using stimulants that injure the organs of digestion while giving temporary relief. To obviate this and present to the public a tonic free from ALCOHOLIC POISON, DR. Greene prepared the OXYGENATED BITTERS, a sure cure for DYSPEPSIA and all kindred complaints. Sold everywhere. JOHN F. HENRY, CURRAN & CO., Proprietors, 8 and 9 College Place, New York.

"I AM THE LAST OF SIX!"

One rainy forenoon something less than a year ago, a pale, cadaverous youth walked into the store of C. N. Crittenton, No. 7 Sixth Avenue, and in weak, husky tones, interrupted frequently by a dry, hacking cough, stated that he wanted a couple of bottles of HALE'S HONEY OF HOREHOUND AND TAR. "I am the last of six," he said, "the others all died of consumption, and I am going fast. I will try this new remedy, but I have no hope." He did try it, and to some purpose. He took, in all, twelve bottles, and is to-day in perfect health—lungs sound, cough gone, not a sign of pulmonary disease remaining.

PIKE'S TOOTH-ACHE DROPS—Cure in one minute.

**The Gem of the Toilet**

The world says is SOZODONT. It renders the teeth pearly white, gives to the breath a fragrant odor, extinguishing the ill-humors which usually flow from a bad and neglected set of teeth. SOZODONT is so convenient, and produces a sensation at once so delightful that it makes it a pleasure to use it.

Spalding's Glue will mend your ways.

## Married.

In Augusta, Nov. 26, by Rev. E. M. O'Callaghan, James Concannon of Waterville to Ellen M. Rowe.

In Alexander, Oct. 31, Lorenzo E. Seavey to Esther Seavey, both of Crawford.

In Bristol, Nov. 26, John C. Fossett to Lizzie S. Curtis.

In Boston, Nov. 25, George L. Hammond of Paris to Ella E. Graham; Nov. 19, Thomas J. Tucker, Jr. to Lizzie M. Egerton of Nobleboro.

In Boothbay, Nov. 22, Hiram M. Hodgdon to Miss Hewlett of Groton, Conn.

In Bethel, Nov. 7, I. G. Cole of Denmark to Mary A. Lawrence of Albany; Nov. 25, Charles A. Proctor of Danvers, Mass. to Phila E. Chapman.

In Concord, Mass., Dec. 3, by Rev. Washington Hosmer of Newton, Henry J. Hosmer, Esq. to Mrs. Laura A. Whiting, formerly of Augusta.

In Damariscotta, Nov. 25, George A. Chapman to Imogene Ordium; William Willey to Sarah M. Lang, both of Bremen.

In Dover, Nov. 22, Liston P. Evans of Garland to Clara V. Getchell; Nov. 20, George H. Robinson to Mary E. Severance.

In Gardiner, Dec. 2, Wm. Hutchinson of Areada, Cal. to Carrie N. Barstow of Litchfield; C. F. Troop to Alice Littlefield.

In Kenduskeag, Nov. 21, Amos W. Emerson to Susan F. Mudgett of Corinth; Charles C. Gilman of Brownville to Annie E. Cole.

In Machias, Nov. 25, Joseph A. Steves of Elgin, N. B. to Estelle A. Barry.

In Newport, Nov. 26, David R. Sanford of Boston to Carrie I. Evans; Dec. 1, Byron P. McKenney to Eva A. Downs.

In Orono, Dec. 5, Llewellyn Decker to Abby A. Sawyer, both of Stillwater.

In Orrington, Nov. 26, John H. Kittredge of Augusta to Lucetta M. Baker.

In Pittston, Nov. 25, William Wiley to Ella Reed of Gardiner.

In Portland, Dec. 2, Albion K. P. Lovejoy to Katie S. Smith of Eastport; George W. Jones, M. D. to Adelaide M. Lucy; Nov. 25, Geo. W. Richards to Amanda M. Gould, both of Deering.

In Pownal, Dec. 1, John Brackett to Ann Alexander.

In Paris Nov. 26, W. H. Taylor to A. C. Robinson, both of Woodstock.

In Stoneham, Nov. 14, Stilman B. Jordan to Julia L. Bennett, both of Albany.

At Sheepscot Bridge, Nov. 8, John Savage to Sarah E. Baker of Wiscasset; Nov. 28, Robert F. Given of Alna to Medora B. Hall of Newcastle.

In Sangerville, Nov. 12, Frank A. Alvord to Emma Gatchell, both of Fitchburg, Mass.

In Sebec, Nov. 16, Llewellyn Johnson to Amanda Durgin.

## Died.

In Augusta, Dec. 3, Emily S., widow of the late Walter Hatch, Esq., aged about 42 years; Dec. 6, Hannah, wife of Abial L. Getchell, aged 71 years.

In Abbot, Nov. 17, Mary, widow of the late Capt. Thomas Greenleaf, aged 81 years.

In Arrowsic, Dec. 1, Andrew McFadden, aged 73 years 3 months.

In Boston, Dec. 3, Wm. W. McNeil of Bangor, aged 25 years.

In China, Dec. 3, Benjamin Whitley, aged 84 years.

In Calais, Oct. 27, Maria, relict of the late George Hiltz, Esq., aged 73 years.

In Damariscotta, Nov. 28, Mrs. Ann Stetson, aged 62 years 7 months; Dec 1, Michael Dray.

In East Machias, Nov. 21, Bertie, A., son of Martin Mayhew, aged 14 years 4 months.

In Fryeburg, Nov. 20, Mrs. Persis McPhee, aged 27 years.

In Kenduskeag, Nov. 30, Martha, wife of Hon. J. B. Nickels, aged 50 years.

In Jefferson, Nov. 27, Julia C. Hussey, aged 20 yrs. 3 months.

In Litchfield, Nov. 9, Wm. O. G. Robinson, aged 48 years 4 months.

In Machiasport, Nov. 17, Mrs. Harriet Wald, formerly of Eastport, aged 73 years.

At Monhegan Isle, Nov. 19, John Humphrey, aged 25 years 2 months.

In North Woodstock, Nov. 24, Chas. Billings, aged 67 years.

In Ontario, Mich., Nov. 10, Christian Schwire, formerly of Waldoboro, aged 73 years.

In Portland, Dec. 7, Mary E., widow of the late Daniel Pike, Esq. of Augusta, aged about 75 years.

In Paris, Nov. 20, Mrs. Polly Field, aged 79 years.

In Palermo, Dec. 1, Clarendon Black, aged 68 yrs.

In Rumford, Nov. 2, William Akely, aged 81 years 10 months.

In Sumner, Nov. 18, Amanda J. wife of Wm. Beckler, aged 24 years 7 months.

In Sidney, Mrs. Roxana Woodward, aged 57 years 7 months.

In South Paris, Nov. 27, John Lombard, aged 80 years 4 months.

In Whitefield, Nov. 12, Calvin F. Kennedy, aged 22 years.

In Woolwich, Dec. 2, Mary S. Card, aged 74 years, 9 months.

In West Gardiner, Nov. 28, Alice E., daughter of Rufus McCurdy, aged 14 years.

In Westport, Nov. 24, Alfred Tarbox, aged 63 years 3 months.

In Washington, Dec. 1, George Shattuck, aged 59 years.

In Wayne, Oct. 10, Clarissa C., wife of Jas. Stinchfield, aged 55 years 5 months.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP.
SCHENCK'S SEAWEED TONIC.
SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS,

Are the only medicines that will cure Pulmonary Consumption. Frequently medicines that stop a cough, will occasion the death of the patient; they lock up the liver, stop the circulation of the blood, hemorrhage follows, and in fact, they clog the action of the very organs that caused the cough. Liver Complaint and Dyspepsia are the causes of two-thirds of the cases of Consumption. Many persons complain of a dull pain in the side, constipation, coated tongue, pain in the shoulder-blade, feelings of drowsiness and restlessness, the food lying heavily on the stomach, accompanied with acidity and belching of wind. These symptoms usually originate from a disordered condition of the stomach or a torpid liver. Persons so affected, if they take one or two heavy colds, and if the cough in these cases be suddenly checked, will find the stomach and liver clogged, remaining torpid and inactive, and almost before they are aware, the lungs are a mass of sores and ulcerated, the result of which is death. Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup is an expectorant which does not contain opium or anything calculated to check a cough suddenly. Schenck's Seaweed Tonic dissolves the food, mixes with the gastric juices of the stomach, aids digestion and creates a ravenous appetite. When the bowels are costive, skin sallow, or the symptoms otherwise of a bilious tendency, Schenck's Mandrake Pills are required. These medicines are prepared only by J. H. SCHENCK & SON.
N. E. corner Sixth and Arch streets, Phila.
And are for sale by all druggists and dealers.

Dr. Schenck will be at the Quincy House, Boston, on the following Wednesdays: October 7th and 21st, November 4th and 18th, and December 2d, 16th and 30th. 1y26

1874 HOLIDAY 1875
Announcement!
—AT—
PARTRIDGE'S DRUG STORE
(Under Granite Hall), Augusta, Me.,
Is a stock of
USEFUL TOILET & FANCY ARTICLES
For Christmas Presents,
AT PRICES LOWER THAN EVER BEFORE.
4t2

HOLIDAY GOODS
—AT—
HORACE NORTH'S.
Writing Desks,
Backgammon Boards,
Gold Pens and Pencils,
Stereoscopes, Views & Holders,
Pocket Knives, Blocks & Games.
3t2 155 Water St., Augusta.

CATARRH!
CATARRH!!

OZAENA OR CORYZA, commonly known as CATARRH, is an unhealthy, diseased condition of the mucous membrane. It arises from vitiated secretions of the glandular system, giving rise to an acid diathesis of the blood. It affects the head and throat, although it may extend to other parts of the body, resulting in *Catarrh of the Bladder, Stomach & Womb.*

SYMPTOMS:

Pain in the head, about the eyes and in the temples, frequent sneezing, thick or thin acrid discharges from the nostrils, a sensation like "cold in the head," watery discharges from the eyes, feverish symptoms, mental dulness, and general lassitude and debility.

Obstructed breathing, partial closure of one or both nostrils, a stopped up, "stuffed up" feeling in the head, constant blowing of the nose, discharges from the nose of a watery or thick yellow or greenish mucous, frequently streaked with blood. Sometimes the matter becomes encrusted in the nasal passages and is removed only by prolonged effort. In the morning on rising the symptoms are the worst. Violent blowing, hawking and spitting until the crusts are removed, at least partially, and the throat is freed from the matter that has accumulated during the night. Finally the poisonous secretions attack the throat, bronchial tubes, lungs, terminating in pulmonary consumption, accompanied by a most offensive breath and impaired eyesight and hearing.

ITS CURE:

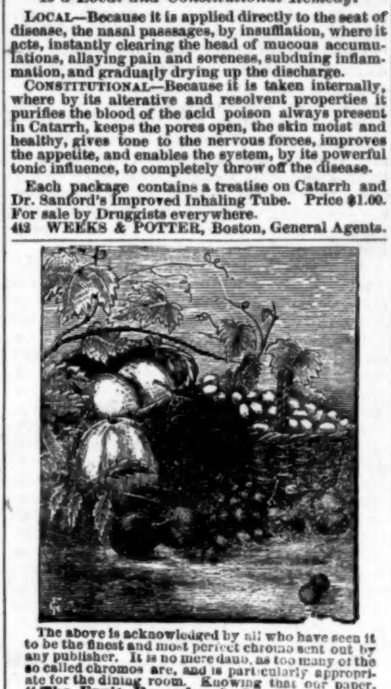
It is here shown that Catarrh attacks first the nasal passages and then undermines the constitution, and is therefore a local and constitutional affection. Starting at the nose it makes its way toward, if not to the lungs. The whole system is affected by the acid poison which it has generated and distributed thro' the blood. Its cure begins at two points, viz.: Locally, by direct application to the diseased nasal passages, and constitutionally by internal treatment, thus eliminating the poison from the blood and neutralizing acid formation. *No treatment can be successful that does not meet, and fully meet, both indications at one and the same time.*

SANFORD'S RADICAL CURE
*Is a Local and Constitutional Remedy.*

LOCAL—Because it is applied directly to the seat of disease, the nasal passages, by insufflation, where it acts, instantly clearing the head of mucous accumulations, allaying pain and soreness, subduing inflammation, and gradually drying up the discharge.

CONSTITUTIONAL—Because it is taken internally, where by its alterative and resolvent properties it purifies the blood of the acid poison always present in Catarrh, keeps the pores open, the skin moist and healthy, gives tone to the nervous forces, improves the appetite, and enables the system, by its powerful tonic influence, to completely throw off the disease.

Each package contains a treatise on Catarrh and Dr. Sanford's Improved Inhaling Tube. Price $1.00. For sale by Druggists everywhere.
4t2 WEEKS & POTTER, Boston, General Agents.



The above is acknowledged by all who have seen it to be the finest and most perfect chromo sent out by any publisher. It is no mere daub, as too many of the so called chromos are, and is particularly appropriate for the dining room. Knowing that our paper, "**The Fruit Recorder & Cottage Gardener**," is and will do **its own puffing**, and **speaks for itself** wherever it is seen and desiring to put it into the hands of as many as possible, **now** we offer to send it for three months on trial, with the above beautiful chromo for only 50 cts. or for last 3 months of the year and through 1875, and the chromo, for only $1 25. To show our confidence in paper and chromo, we will take them back and refund the money to all who are not satisfied with the paper or chromo. We challenge any publisher in the country, to produce as many testimonials, in proportion to circulation, as we can show for the **practical** value of "**The Recorder & Gardener**" and the beauty of our **Chromo**. All who grow flowers in-doors or out, fruits or vegetables, should take it. Specimen copies **free** to all applicants. Our offer to club agents is very liberal. Our "**Small Fruit Instructor**,"—a 64 page book, tells in plain simple language, how to plant and grow all kinds of small fruit successfully, for the kitchen or market garden. Price, post paid, 25 cts., or 50 cts. with the above chromo. Address, A. M. PURDY, Rochester, N.Y.

LOOK! LOOK!
At the Finest and Most
Complete Stock of
TRAVELING BAGS
For Ladies and Gents,
EVER OFFERED IN AUGUSTA.
This Stock was Bought Expressly
—FOR THE—
HOLIDAYS.
COLLER, HAMILTON & CO.,
4t2 143 Water St., Augusta.

Sleighs! Sleighs!!
Sleighs!!!
HARNESS! HARNESS!! HARNESS!!!
Of Every Conceivable Design!
With all the Latest Improvements.
PRICES DOWN TO HARD PAN.
Call and see the
Largest Stock of Harnesses
EVER OFFERED IN AUGUSTA,
At COLLER, HAMILTON & CO.'S,
4t2 143 Water St.

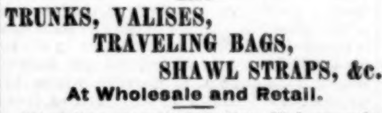
MEN WANTED
To sell the Political, Personal and Property
RIGHTS of a Citizen of the United States.
How to Exercise and how to Preserve them.

**A New Book.** By THEOPHILUS PARSONS, LL. D. Containg chapters on the Federal and State CONSTITUTIONS—their History and Origin; Powers and Duties of Public Officers; People's Rights; Parentage and Guardianship; Marital Rights and Duties.—With Instructions, Directions and Legal Forms for all Transactions; Rules of Organization & Procedure in Deliberative Assemblies; A Dictionary of Legal Terms in common use; A complete Treasury of Legal and Constitutional Knowledge. Embodying in popular form the results of the labor and study of the most popular and successful writer of law-books in the country. Worth ten times the price asked for it. Exclusive territory given.
For full particulars address 6t1
S. S. SCRANTON & Co., Hartford, Conn.

Holiday Goods!
—AT—
HORACE NORTH'S.
ILLUSTRATED BOOKS!
A large assortment of
BIBLES, ALBUMS &
RUSSIA LEATHER GOODS.
3t2 155 Water St., Augusta.

COLLER, HAMILTON & CO.
Have the Largest Assortment of
Harnesses, Blankets,
Whips, Surcingles, &c.,
And everything in the line, ever offered in Maine.
—ALSO—
TRUNKS, VALISES,
TRAVELING BAGS,
SHAWL STRAPS, &c.
At Wholesale and Retail.

Orders from any part of the State filled promptly, and warranted to give satisfaction. Give us a call or order by mail.
3t2 143 Water St., Augusta, Me.



For Sale by
HORACE NORTH, Bookseller and Stationer,
2t2 155 Water St., Augusta, Me.

FOWLE'S
Pile and Humor Cure.

THE ONLY MEDICINE *that is warranted a perfect cure for all the worst forms of* PILES, LEPROSY, SCROFULA, RING-WORM, SALT RHEUM, CANCER, CATARRH, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, ASTHMA, DYSPEPSIA, KIDNEYS, *and all diseases of the* SKIN and BLOOD. *Entirely vegetable.* Sent by express, and money returned in all cases of failure. H. D. FOWLE, Chemist, 71 Prince St., Boston. Sold everywhere. $1 a bottle. Send for Circulars. 13teop43

DR. GREENE'S success in curing Cancer, Scrofula, Catarrh, Dyspepsia, Liver Complaints, Nervous Diseases and other chronic difficulties, is without parallel.

The doctor's treatise on "Diseases and Their Means of Cure," the result of 25 years' experience, will be sent free to invalids. Address Dr. R. GREENE, 34 Temple place, Boston, Mass. 4t2

KIND reader, if you are in any way interested in
BEES or HONEY
we will with pleasure send you a sample copy of our Monthly "**Gleanings in Bee Culture.**" Simply write your address plainly on a postal card and address A. I. ROOT & CO., Medina, Ohio.

Plow Handles! Plow Beams!

I am now prepared to furnish at short notice, any style of Handle that may be wanted, from the best of Connecticut Oak; workmanship, first-class; furnished in any quantity, at bottom prices.
FRED ATWOOD, Winterport, Me.
3tf Gen'l Ag't Higganum Mfg. Co.

**First National Bank of Augusta.**

AUGUSTA, ME., Dec. 9, 1874.

Notice is hereby given, that the annual meeting of the share holders of the First National Bank of Augusta, Maine, for the choice of Directors, will be held at the Banking rooms of said Bank, on Tuesday, January, 12, 1875, at 11 o'clock A. W.
1t3 I. BOOTHBY, Cashier.

For Use in Cold Weather.

**Fuller's Geranium Lotion**, for rough skin, sore lips, and chapped hands, and Fine Honey and Glycerine Soaps for the toilet, which may be found at FULLER'S DRUG STORE.

GILES'
LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA.
A Message to the Suffering.

When a remedy is productive of such relief as to excel all other remedies in its curative results, it is a duty to make it known as generally as possible. This consideration has actuated the proprietor, WM. M. GILES, to bring before the public his LINIMENT IODIDE AMMONIA.

The remarkable cures it has effected classes it as one of the most important and valuable remedies ever discovered for the cure and relief of pain in any form. It cures **Neuralgia, Face Ache, Rheumatism, Gout, Frosted Feet, Chilblains, Sore Throat, Erysipelas, Bruises, Wounds** of every nature, in which the effects of external applications are almost magical, and in which its internal administration is found to be most efficacious. Physicians prescribe it for their patients and accord it their unhesitating approval as an invaluable discovery.

The LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA is an essential appointment in all well-regulated stables, and where large numbers of horses are provided for, and where there is a liability to the visitation of a class of epidemic diseases for which this preparation is a recognized remedy. No stable should be without it, for no stable can really be deemed safe that is not supplied with it.

We append a few of the many testimonials bearing testimony to the universal favor with which this medicine has been received by the public.

TESTIMONIALS.

In stiffness and soreness of the muscles and joints, rheumatic pains, I have experienced immediate relief from GILES' LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA.
THOMAS BAKER, *Wallack's Theatre.*

For headache, neuralgia, sore throat, inflamed joints of the feet, GILES' LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA gave immediate relief.
I. HENRY MAGONIGLE, *Booth's Theatre.*

MR. WM. M. GILES, *Chemist, 451 Sixth avenue:*—I suffered with rheumatic pains in my limbs and joints, and found no relief until I tried your LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA, with immediate relief. Am now cured. ROBERT H. SMITH.
*Head Pantryman on board Steamer Jesse Hoyt.*

GILES' LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA is a *sure cure* for ague in the breast, and removes all swellings and hard lumps. A NURSING MOTHER.

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 7, 1874.

DR. GILES:—While on duty as fireman on engine 47, about ten miles from this city, on Shore Line Road, was accidentally thrown against a rock, train under full head, about thirty-five miles an hour. Was very badly bruised. Your agent was on board. He furnished me with two bottles of LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA, from which I received the greatest possible benefit. In four days I was able to sit up, and am now ready to commence work. My aged mother also used the Liniment for rheumatism, which it cured. JOHN GAFFNEY.

BARNUM'S HIPPODROME.—We have never found anything equal to GILES' LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA. Bruises, wounds, stiffness, lameness, pains in the muscles, swellings immediately disappear. It is just what we long wanted, and we now use nothing else. In thirty years' experience in Europe and America I have never met anything like it.
L. B. WOODS,
*Veterinary Surgeon, Barnum's Hippodrome.*

NEW YORK, June 1st.

MR. WM. M. GILES, *Chemist*: Sir—Your new discovery, LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA, surpasses anything for splints, strains, lameness in the limbs or shoulders, &c., wind galls, and hard bony swellings on the joints. It is truly marvelous.
Yours very truly, RALPH OGLE,
*Veterinary Surgeon, 330 West 25th st.*

BOSTON, July 13, 1874.

MR. WM. M. GILES:—In the match between the Athletics of Philadelphia and the Boston club, played July 13th, 1874, at Boston, I fell and displaced my knee cap. Your agent fortunately happened to be present. He instantly applied your Liniment, and with *instant relief.* HARRY C. SHAFER,
*Boston Base Ball Club.*

BOSTON, Sept. 14, 1874.

MR. WM. M. GILES, *Chemist:* Dear Sir—Your Agent, Mr. Guy S. Frazey, called on me early in July last to introduce your LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA. Being a skeptic in regard to the great variety of articles patent for the cure of all sorts of diseases, I had no faith in your Iodide, but, after a long discussion with your agent, it occurred to me that I had a horse I was using for private that had a *shoe bile* on his near forward leg. I told him if he thought it would remove that bunch, I would try it. Suffice it to say I have used it *very persistently* till the present time, and I now find it nearly removed, and think it will shortly disappear entirely. From this trial of your remedy I cheerfully recommend its use to any one who has a horse or horses afflicted in this way. I would further say that, while using it for the above, the same horse started another bunch on the off leg; the Liniment was applied immediately, and the bunch has disappeared. J. H. HATHORNE,
6m2 *Proprietor Citizens' Line Coaches.*

GEO. C. GOODWIN & CO., Agents, Boston.
FRANK W. KINSMAN, Ag't, Augusta, Me.

FOWLER,
HAMLEN,
& SMITH,

WOULD announce to their patrons, that in addition to their former place of business, they have secured the
**Store formerly occupied by Mrs. Hodges,**
And have connected the two stores by an arched passage, forming one of the
*LARGEST AND BEST LIGHTED RETAIL STORES IN THE STATE.*

Within the past ten days we have made large purchases in all descriptions of
Foreign & Domestic Dry Goods,
at VERY LOW FIGURES; and all old stock, as well as recent purchases, will be sold correspondingly LOW FOR CASH. Bargains in
BLACK SILKS, FROM $1.25 to $3.50.
Also a large invoice of
CASHMERES AND MERINOS,
In Black and Colors, from 62½c to $1.50 per yard.

We are selling the above goods much lower than during the panic of last winter, and many of them less than they have been sold for fifteen years.

A general assortment of DRESS GOODS,
From 25c to $1.25 per yard.
Great Bargains in BRILLIANTINES, MOHAIRS, BRIGHT PLAIDS, ALPACAS, &c.

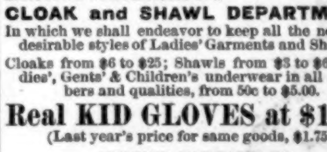
**Woolens**—In our Woolen Department we have made larger purchases than ever; and can show our customers full lines of **Foreign & American Beavers, Rough Overcoatings, Broadcloths, Doeskins, Pant Goods, Ladies' and Misses' Cloakings, &c.** We shall furnish a separate room with reference to a
CLOAK and SHAWL DEPARTMENT,
In which we shall endeavor to keep all the new and desirable styles of Ladies' Garments and Shawls.

Cloaks from $6 to $25; Shawls from $3 to $60. Ladies', Gents' & Children's underwear in all numbers and qualities, from 50c to $5.00.

Real KID GLOVES at $1.00.
(Last year's price for same goods, $1.75).
SPECIAL BARGAINS IN
Blankets, Flannels, Linens, Cottons,
Laces, Hosiery, Gloves, Small
Wares, &c., &c.
THREE CASES REMNANTS Androscoggin Bleached Sheeting at 10c. per yard.
5000 REMNANTS
UNBLEACHED SHEETING.
5000 Remnants Cocheco,
Hamilton and American Prints,
7 CENTS PER YARD.

Fowler, Hamlen & Smith,
Nos. 1 and 2, Meonian Building, 1 AUGUSTA, ME.

ICE TOOLS!



CAST STEEL
ICE PLOWS, MARKERS,
And other Ice Tools.

We have a large stock constantly on hand, and the assortment embraces all the latest improvements in Tools now required in the business of ice cutting. All Tools are of the best quality, handsomely finished
AND WARRANTED.

Illustrated Price Lists sent free on application, and orders executed without any delay.

Ames Plow Company,
Manufacturers of
*Agricultural Implements & Machines,*
Quincy Hall, Boston, and
4t2 53 Beekman St., New York.

BERKSHIRE
LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY
—OF—
PITTSFIELD, Mass.
Organized in 1851.
Strictly Mutual.
All Policies Non-Forfeitable.
Assets Aggregating
Three Millions of Dollars.
J. W. CLAPP,
General Agent for Maine,
No. 154 1-2 Water St.,
AUGUSTA, ME.

Good Agents wanted throughout the State. Apply as above. tf1

1875 DIARIES. 1875
Maine Farmers' Almanac,
For Sale by HORACE NORTH,
2w1 Augusta, Me.

TOOTH BRUSHES,

HAIR Brushes, Cloth Brushes, Nail Brushes, Fine Perfumes, Hair Oils, Pomades, Colognes, Florida Water, Bay Rum, and a general assortment of Toilet Goods, for sale at FULLER'S Drug Store. 25

**Notice.**

THE annual meeting of the Eastern Kennebec Agricultural and Horticultural Society, will be held at Week's Mills, China, on Saturday, Dec. 26th, at 9 o'clock, A. M.
Windsor, Dec. 1, 1874. 3t1* H. COLBURN, Sec.

Help Wanted.

FIVE experienced Girls to do Chamber work, Laundry and Dining-room. Good pay and steady employment. Apply in person, or address Proprietor of Augusta House, Augusta, Maine.
3tf H. BAKER.

FINE TOILET SOAPS, PERFUMERIES AND HAIR OILS, with a large assortment of Toilet Articles generally, at PARTRIDGE'S DRUG STORE, under Granite Hall. 42

Maine Central Railroad Co.,
CHANGE OF TIME.
On and After
Monday, Nov. 23, '74,
Passenger Trains leave Augusta
For Boston, 6 00 and 11 30 A. M., and 9 10 P. M.
Bath, Rockland, Lewiston and Portland, 6 00 and 11 30 A. M., and 2 15 P. M.
Farmington, 11 30 A. M.
Skowhegan, Belfast, Dexter and Bangor, 8 15 A. M. and 4 15 P. M.
Hallowell and Gardiner, 6 00, 9 00 and 11 30 A. M., 2 15, 3 00, 5 30 and 9 10 P. M.
Leave Gardiner for Augusta, 7 52, 11 07 A. M., 1 00, 3 30, 3 51, 7 00 and 10 28 P. M.
Pullman Train fr. Boston arrives Augusta, 8 15 P.M.
Morning " " " 4 15 "
Afternoon " " " 10 50 "
1 L. L. LINCOLN, Supt.

JUST PUBLISHED:
PIANO at HOME
A large collection of the best
Four-Hand Pieces
FOR THE PIANO-FORTE.

No book is better fitted for "Home" Musical entertainment than this. Beginners can play the easier duets. Advanced players and teachers need not to be told that practice with four hands is the very best to acquire "time" and "certainty." Practice in the "Piano at Home" is nothing but a continual pleasure. 250 pages, full sheet music size. In boards, $2.50; cloth, $3.00; full gilt, $4.00.

For Choirs: THE LEADER. Price $1.38.
For Singing Schools: THE SONG MONARCH, 75c.

THE EMERSON METHOD
For Reed Organs.
By L. O. EMERSON and W. S. B. MATTHEWS.

Easy and progressive lessons, scales, studies, voluntaries, interludes, quartets, songs, and other pieces in profusion. All well arranged by skilful hands. Price $2.50.

For Choirs: PERKINS' ANTHEM BOOK. $1.50.
For Quartet Choirs: THOMAS' QUARTETS. $2.50.

Specimen copies sent post-paid for retail price.

Oliver Ditson & Co., Chas. H. Ditson & Co.,
Boston. 711 B'dway, N. Y.

Brown Brothers & Co.,
59 WALL ST., NEW YORK,
211 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA.
66 STATE ST., BOSTON.

Issue against cash deposited, or satisfactory guarantee of repayment, Circular Credits for travelers, in *dollars* for use in the United States and adjacent countries, and in *Pounds sterling* for use in any part of the world.

The credits, bearing the signature of the holder, afford a ready means of identification, and the amount for which they are issued can be availed of from time to time and wherever he may be, in sums to meet the requirements of the traveller.

Applications for credits may be made to either of the above houses direct, or through any first-class bankers in this country.

They also issue Commercial Credits, make Cable Transfers of money between this country and England, draw Bills of Exchange on Great Britain and Ireland, and make advances on cotton or other approved merchandise to the consignment of Brown, Shipley & Co., London and Liverpool. 1y36

Augusta Savings Bank.
ORGANIZED IN 1848.

DEPOSITS of any amount received from one dollar upwards, and interest payable twice a year, Feb. and Aug. Interest not drawn out is added to the deposit, thus making COMPOUND INTEREST.

Interest begins on the first day of each month. Money deposited on or before the *tenth day* of each month, will draw interest from the *first day* of the same month.

☞ The law passed by the last Legislature *exempts from municipal taxation*, all deposits in Savings Banks. Under this law, *this Bank will guarantee to depositors* interest at the rate of six ℘ cent., payable semi-annually, FREE FROM TAXES.

No returns of names of depositors are required to be made to State or town authorities, and all accounts are held by this Bank to be *strictly private* and *confidential.*

Married women and persons under age can deposit money in their own names, so that it can be drawn only by themselves, or on their order.

Especial advantages afforded to Executors, Guardians, Trustees, and others having in charge Trust Funds. WM. R. SMITH, Treasurer.
Augusta, April 27, 1874. 23tf

Geo. Woods & Co.'s Organs.

Attention is called to these remarkable instruments.

Their Combination Solo Stops.
AEOLINE—A Soft or Breathing Stop.
VOX HUMANA—A Baritone Solo.
PIANO—A Fine Toned Piano, never requiring TUNING.

They are capable of the most beautiful musical effects. For particulars address,
GEO. WOODS & CO.,
Cambridgeport, Mass.
Or
I. C. HOVEY,
12t43 AUGUSTA, ME.

HOUSE PLANTS

Can be made to look as green and vigorous in winter as in summer. Modern Science has shown that the elements necessary for the growth of plants in the richest soils are only one thousandth part of one per cent. of the whole soil. In a flower-pot these elements are nearly exhausted in one season, and need to be restored to the soil without disturbance of the roots of the plants. For this purpose the elements of nutrition for plants have been concentrated, purified and put up in packages, with directions for use, under the title of

"PLANT FOOD."

The Plant Food is free from odor, and so cleanly that the most delicate lady may feed her pet flowers without soiling her fingers. It is sold for the trifling sum of **25 cents per package**, and if applied to plants with proper care, they will present a bright, healthy and vigorous appearance in winter as well as in summer. Sent to any address by mail, post paid, on receipt of price, by GEORGE SHOVE,
4t1 Yarmouth Port, Mass.

The Blanchard Churn.

BELIEVING "The Blanchard Churn" to be a dairy implement which fully complies with all desirable requirements, and that it combines *more good qualities* than any other churn now made or sold, we have secured the GENERAL STATE AGENCY for it, and are now prepared to offer it on advantageous terms to Dealers and Dairymen.

To Dairymen and all persons using Churns, we can confidently say, take one and try it, and if it does not satisfy all reasonable expectations, and operate as well as represented, it may be returned to us *at our expense.*

Generous discounts to the trade. Send in your orders early, and they will be promptly filled. Respectfully, KENDALL & WHITNEY,
Portland, Maine.

Dealers in Farm Implements generally, and Field and Garden Seeds in every variety. 23tf

PEERLESS!
The Norcross Patent Peerless
FURNACE FOR COAL.
Also, WOOD FURNACES, suitable for heat-a Church or a Dwelling-House. Set in any part of the State, by
GOULD & CROSS.
42 AUGUSTA, ME.

MAINE BRED HORSES.

A Complete STUD BOOK and Trotting Register of Noted Maine Horses. By J. W. Thompson. 12 mo., 532 pages. Illustrated. Price $1.50; by mail, $1.59. For Sale at the Maine Farmer Office. 52

A Good Farm for Sale,

Situated in the town of Manchester, 3 miles from Augusta, a mile and a half from Hallowell Granite Co.'s quarries, sixty acres good land, good buildings, good orchard. A very nice situation. For further particulars inquire on the premises of
4t53 P. S. GILBERT.

FARMS FOR SALE.

A good Farm 3½ miles from Bath; two good farms in Phipsburg; one farm in Litchfield; two farms in Bowdoin; one farm in Brunswick. Apply to
PLUMMER & EATON,
33tf Real Estate Agents, Bath, Maine.

Sheep for Sale.

I will dispose of some two hundred Grade Cotswold Ewe Sheep, young and in fine condition, in lots to suit purchasers. They may be seen at my farm in Vassalboro'.
Augusta, Nov. 6, 1874. 50 IRA D. STURGIS.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE.

Of different ages, from our own importation. Imported and bred with special reference to their MILKING QUALITIES.
STURTEVANT BROS.
26tf Waushackum Farm, So, Framingham, Mass.

For Sale.

BRONZE Turkeys, White Leghorns, Rouen and Muscovy Ducks. Inclose stamp and address
C. STEWARD, P. O. Box 407,
Nov. 21, '74. 6t1 Skowhegan, Me.

$100 REWARD.

WILL be given for arrest and conviction of the party or parties who burned Isaiah Noyes' barn, on the night of Nov. 12.
4t50 ALVESTUS NOYES.

Prime Beeswax Wanted.

THE best yellow wax in quantities large or small, bought at PARTRIDGE'S DRUG STORE,
32 Opp. Farmer Office, Augusta.

Snuffs, Tobacco and Cigars.

SCOTCH, Maccaboy and Rappee Snuffs, also nice Tobaccos and Cigars, sold at PARTRIDGE'S DRUG STORE, under Granite Hall. 46

TRUSSES THAT WILL FIT. A large stock to select from at PARTRIDGE'S DRUG STORE, opp. Farmer office. 49

For Sale.

A SHARP'S Breech Loading Rifle, second hand. It is in good order and will be sold at a bargain. Inquire at the Maine Farmer office. 1tf

# Poetry.

## Late Days.

BY LOUISA BUSHNELL.

How sweetly dies the year,
  Serenely lapsing to its last repose!
It flamed with joy when first the end drew near;
  Now hushed it sinks into its golden close,
      As hearth fires burning low
      Lie still and glow.

I hear our little maid
  Sing through the rustling leaves her cheery song.
Her spring-time voice rings out so unafraid,
  So like to one that has been silent long.
      I shut my eyes to see
      If it can be.

The past looks all a dream;
  I doubt my joys, and oh! I doubt my grief!
The shadow mingles strangely with the gleam,
  And all drops from me like a withered leaf
      Blown by celestial wind
      Far, far behind.

Now there remains a rest;
  And, warmly wrapped within this filmy haze,
That spreads its yellow net across the west,
  Upon the sweet, receding year I gaze
      And feel the tender peace
      Of days that cease.

Slower the colors burn,
  Their glowing hearts must fall to ashen brown,
And flicker out, and into shadows turn;
  But then the gentle snow will flutter down,
      A soft, white sleep will fall,
      And cover all—

That long, long, quiet sleep
  That falls upon all death from out the sky,
Heaven tenderly our fallen leaves will keep;
  They do not die, they only seem to die.
      So pray I it may be
      With me, with me.

# Our Story Teller.

## EXECUTION OF A CONVICT.

I had served twenty-five years on board an East Indiaman, and for the last ten years had commanded the Belle, one of the finest crafts that ever floated. I was an old sea-dog, and had dwelt so long on salt water that I felt almost a hatred for the land.

On the 20th of October, 1871, I received orders to put myself in readiness to sail for Cayenne. I was to transport seventy-five soldiers and a convict. I had orders to use this individual well, and the letter I received from the directory enclosed another with a huge red seal, which I was not to open until between 27 and 28 degrees, west longitude, that is, just before we were about to cross the line.

The letter was a long packet, so well closed on every side, that it was impossible to catch the slightest glimpse of its contents. I am not naturally superstitious, but there was something in the look of the letter that I did not altogether like, though I could give no reason why. However, I carried it into the cabin, and stuck it under the glass of a little shabby English clock, which was fastened above my head. I was busy in fixing the letter under the clock when who should come into the cabin but the convict and his wife! This was the first time I had seen either of them, and I may say that a more prepossessing couple I never met. The woman was scarcely more than fifteen, and as handsome as a picture, while the husband was an intelligent, magnificently formed man, on whose features nature had never written "Villain."

His crime, to be plain, was the misfortune of being a hundred years ahead of his age. He and others had attempted something our Government called treason; and which is punished with death. Therefore, it occasioned me considerable wonder that he should be under my charge; but more of this afterward.

He had, I said, his wife hanging on his arm. She was merry as a bird; she looked like a turtle dove cooing and nestling beneath his great wing.

Before a month had passed over our heads I looked upon them as my own children. Every morning I used to call them both into my cabin. The young fellow would sit writing at my table—that is to say, at my chest, which was my bed. He would often help me at reckoning, and soon learned to do better than I could. I was amazed at his ability. His young wife would sit upon one of the round stools in my cabin, working at her needle.

One day we were all sitting in this way, when I said:

"Do you know, my young ones, as it seems to me, we make a very pretty family picture? Mind, I don't mean to ask questions, but may be you have not much money to spare, and you are, both of you, as I think, too handsome to dig in the burning sun of Cayenne, like many a poor wretch before you. It is a bad country—a bad country take my word for it. I who have roughed it through tempest and sunshine, till I have the skin of a rhinoceros, might get along there; but you—I am afraid for you. So, if you should chance to have a bit of foolish friendship for your poor old captain, I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll get rid of this old brig; she's not much better than an old tub, after all; so I'll settle myself down there with you, if you like. You see I have not a living soul in the world to care for, or that cares for me. I want relations. I want a family. I should like to make my home with you, my pretty young ones, what say ye?"

They said nothing at all, but sat looking, first at each other, and then at me, as if they doubted whether they understood what I said.

At last the little bird threw her arms around my neck and cried like a baby.

"But suddenly pausing, "you haven't looked at the letter with the big red seal."

"Hang it," I exclaimed, "it had slipped my mind entirely."

With a cool, dreadful sensation I went to my chest to see where we were, I found that we had several days remaining before we reach the proper latitude for opening the letter.

Well, there we stood, all three of, us looking up at the letter as if it could have spoken to us. As it happened the sun was shining full upon the face of the clock case, and fell upon the great red seal of the letter. I could fancy that it looked something like a big monster, an ogre's face, grinning from the middle of the fire; it looked horrid.

"Could not one fancy," said I, to make them laugh, "its great, great big eyes were staring out of its head?"

"Ah, my love," said the wife, "it looks like blood."

"Pooh, pooh!" said her husband, taking her arm under his, "it looks like an invitation to a wedding. Come, come, leave the letter alone if it troubles you. Let's go to our room and prepare for bed."

And off they went. They went up upon deck and left me alone with the beast of a letter. I remember, I kept looking at it as I smoked my pipe; it seemed to fix its great red eye upon mine, fascinating like the eye of a serpent. It was red, wide, raw, staring like the eye of a wolf. I took my great coat and hung it over both clock and letter, and went upon deck to finish my pipe.

We were now in the vicinity of Cape de Verde Islands; the Belle was running before a fair wind at the rate of ten miles an hour. It was a splendid night, the stars large and shining, the moon rising above the horizon as large as a silver sun, the line of ocean parting it, and long streams of bare, shimmering light falling upon the waves, which as they broke, sparkled like jewels. I sat upon the deck smoking my pipe and looking at them.

All was still except the footfall of the officer of the watch, as he paced the deck, gazing, as I was, upon the shadow of the vessel stealing over the silent water.

I love silence and order—I hate noise and confusion. The lights should all have been extinguished by this time, but when I looked upon the deck I thought I saw a little red hue of light beneath my feet. At another time and place this would have made me angry, but knowing that the light came from the cabin of my little *deportes*, I determined to see what they were about.

I had only to look down—I could see into the cabin from the skylight.

The young girl was upon her knees, she was saying her prayers. A light swinging from the ceiling lighted her room. She had on a long nightdress, and her golden hair floating over her shoulders, almost touched her two little bare feet, which were peeping out from under her white dress, so pretty. I turned away; but pshaw! said I, I am an old sailor! What matter? So I stayed.

The husband was sitting upon his little trunk, his head resting upon his hands, looking at her as she prayed: she raised her face to heaven, and then I saw that her eyes filled with tears. She looked like a Magdalene. As she rose, he said:

"Ah, my sweet Laurette, as we approach America, I cannot help being anxious—I do not know why—but I feel that this voyage has been the happiest part of our lives."

"So it seems to me," she answered. "I only wish it might last forever."

Suddenly clasping her hands in a transport of love and affection, he said:

"And yet, my little angel, I see you cry when you say your prayers, and that I cannot stand, for I know what causes it, and then I fear you must repent what I have done."

"Repent," she said, in a sad, rebuking tone. "Repent," of having come with you. Do you think because I have been yours such a very short time that I should not love you? Was I not your wife? How can you be sorry that I should be with you, to live with you if you live, and to die with you if you are to die?"

The young man began to sigh, striking the floor with his feet, while he kissed repeatedly the little hand and arm which she was holding out.

"Ah, Laurette, Laurette! When I think if our marriage had been delayed only five days, and then I should have been arrested and transported alone, I cannot forgive myself."

At this the little one stretched out her round white arm, clasped his head, pressed his forehead, his hair, his eyes, smiling like a cherub, and murmuring all sorts of woman's fond things. I was quite affected, and considered it one of the prettiest scenes I had ever witnessed.

"And, besides, we are so very rich, too!" she said, bursting out laughing. "Look at my purse, one gold louis d'or—all my worldly wealth."

He began to laugh too.

"Yes, dear, I have spent my last half crown. I gave it to the fellow who carried our trunks on board."

"Ah, poor!" she cried, "what matters it? Nobody so merry as those that have nothing at all; besides, I have two diamond rings that my mother gave me; they are good for something all the world over; we can sell them when you like; and besides, I am sure that the captain meant kindly by us, and I suspect he knows very well what is in the letter. It is a recommendation to the Governor of Cayenne."

"Perhaps so; who knows?"

"To be sure it is," continued the charming little wife. "You are so good, I am sure the Governor has banished you only for a short time. I know they have no feeling against you."

It was high time the light should be stricken out, and now I rapped on the deck and called them to do so.

They instantly obeyed, and I heard them laughing and chattering like two innocent school-fellows.

One morning when I woke I was surprised to find not the slightest motion of the vessel. Hurrying on deck, I found that we were becalmed. Latitude, one degree north; longitude, between 27 and 28 degrees west.

I waited until night, when I descended to the cabin and opened the letter, with a dull awful feeling. I held my breath while I broke the big red seal, and read:

"Captain Fountainbleau: The convict Antoine Hindsclear stands convicted of high treason against the Republic. The directory order that he be shot in mid ocean, and you are hereby instructed to see that the orders are carried into effect."

I read the letter backward and forward. I went on deck. There they were, she looked upon the ocean, and he gazing upon her with an expression of unutterable fondness. Catching his eye, I signed for him to come into the cabin, and, bidding her good-bye, he came down, his face all smiles.

I was bathed in a cold sweat; I felt as if deadly sick; I handed him the letter and he read it, together with the death warrant, which was drawn up in due form and attached. I gathered voice as he finished.

He colored slightly and bowed.

"I ask nothing, Captain," he said, in the same gentle voice that always characterized his speech; "no man can be expected to swerve from his duty. I only wish to speak a few words to Laurette, and to entreat you to take care of her if she survives; I hardly think she will."

"All that is fair, my good fellow," I cried. "If you request it I will carry her back to France to her family. I will never leave her until she wishes to be rid of me. but I do not think she will survive it."

He took my hand and pressed it.

"Most kind captain, I see you suffer more in this business than I do; but there is no help for it. I trust you will preserve what little property of mine is left, for her sake, and that you will take care she gets what her poor old mother may leave her. I put her life, her honor, in your hands. She is" (and how fondly low his voice became) "a delicate little creature; her chest is often affected; she must keep it warm, and if she could keep the two diamond rings her mother gave her, I should be glad; but of course, if money is needed, they must go. My poor Laurette; how pretty she looks."

It was getting too much for me, and I began to knit my brows.

"One word is as good as a thousand," I said. "We understand each other. Go to her."

I squeezed his hand; he looked wistfully at me, and I added: "Stay a moment, let me give you a word of advice. Don't say a word to her: be easy; that is my business. It shall be managed in the best manner."

"Ah!" said he, "I did not understand; yes, much better. Besides this leave taking! this leave taking!"

"Yes," said I, "don't behave like a child—much better. No leave taking if you can help it, or you are lost."

I kept my seat. I saw them walking arm in arm upon the deck for about an hour.

I called the mate to me, when he had read the letter, I said:

"Garley, that is bad business—bad business. I put it in your hands. I obey the orders, but remain in the cabin until it is over."

"How do you wish the thing done?" he asked in a nonchalant manner.

"Take him in a boat—out of sight; do it as quick as possible; don't say anything of this till the time comes."

Garley sat five minutes looking at me without saying a word. He was a strage fellow. I didn't know what to make of him. He then went out of the cabin without saying a word.

Night came at last. "Man a boat; go a quarter of a mile; be quick."

To obey a slip of paper; for it was a slip of paper; after all. Something in the very air must have urged me on. I saw the young man kneel down before his Laurette; kiss her knees! her feet! her gown! I cried like a madman:

"Part them! Part them this instant! Part them—curse the Republic—curse the director—the directors! I quit the service—curse the lawyers!—you shall tell them if you will!"

She was dragged into her berth and the boat rowed away in the darkness.

Some time after a dull volley came over the sea to the vessel. It was all over.

Fool! madman! how I paced the deck and cursed myself. All night long I paced back and forth, and all night long I heard the moaning of the stricken bird.

Often I halted and was tempted to throw myself into the sea and so end this horrid pain of brain and heart.

Days passed; I saw nothing of Laurette. I would not see her. She avoided me, and I was glad of it. I could not bear the sight of that woe-stricken face.

The mate, Garley, how I hated him! He was as cool and unconcerned as though he had no remembrance of shooting the poor wretch.

At Cayenne I resigned my ship. Going to the city, I made all my arrangements and took the steamer for New York. I placed ample funds in the hands of a trusty friend and told him to send Laurette to me at the end of six months. I could not see her until her grief had lost its edge.

Weary, sick and careless, of my life, I wandered off into New York State, and finally bought a little place where I hoped I should lie down and die.

I sent for Laurette. Poor bird, I must see her. I could wait no longer.

One summer night I sat in the porch to my house, smoking my pipe, and gazing down the road. Soon the rumble of wheels was heard, and the stage halted.

The next moment a pair of soft arms were round my neck, and the head of my sobbing Laurette was on my breast.

"Oh! you dear, excellent captain."

"Heavens! who is that behind you?"

There stood the manly form of Antoine Hindsclear, the convict.

"What does this mean?" I demanded, hardly knowing whether I was dreaming or not.

"Are you glad to see me!"

"Thank God! thank God!" was all I could ejaculate.

I understood it all. The mate Garley had read my heart better than I did myself. After leaving the brig in the boat, he arranged the whole affair. The volley was fired, but no bullet touched Antoine Hindsclear. He was smuggled into his berth again, and took care to avoid my sight. The whole crew were in the plot, and thank God, I was duped.

I sent Garley a thousand dollars as a reward.

I am now an old man; but I am happy. My children and my grandchildren (I call them nothing else) seem to think old Capt. Fontainbleau is not such a wretch after all.

## A Cheese and Wisdom Sandwich.

The literary public of the old college town of Hudson, Summit county, Ohio, was advised that Will Carleton, the author of "Farm Ballads," etc., would have something to say on Saturday night. The author of "Farm Ballads," etc., is very popular with the lecture-going people of Hudson, so they all determined to give him a rouser. As the lecturer was to speak upon domestic themes, it was thought best by the committee, out of compliment to the subject and the leading industry of the place, to make a splendid display of our leading domestic product. Accordingly, as there were no chairs in the hall, it was seated with a thousand large-sized cheese boxes, tastefully arranged in quadruple rows; the platform was garnished in like manner, and to cap the climax of domestic appropriateness a pyramid of solid old cheese was improvised for a table, and a seat for the speaker and officers of the evening; also for the band. This arrangement gave a peculiar pungency to the atmosphere in that part of the hall.—*Utica Herald.*

The sleeping fox catches no poultry.

## At Beecher's Island.

### A Thrilling Account of an Indian Engagement in 1868.

Gen. Custer, in his "Life on the Plains," relates many thrilling incidents. Among these may be reckoned the fight of Beecher's Island, in September, 1868, by General Forsyth, in command of a company of fifty frontiersmen, out after a band of Cheyennes on the war-path. Encamping one night on the Arickaree river, they found themselves surrounded by Indians in full war-paint coming upon them with exultant whoops. Fleeing to an island the men tied their animals in the center, formed a line around them, and prepared to sell their lives as dearly as possible. The fire from the Indians, who were 900 strong, and armed with the best Spencer and Henry rifles, was so galling the men could not return it. Soon every horse was killed, and General Forsyth himself, twice wounded. Perceiving their success, women and children gathered upon the hills chanting war-songs, the medicine-men went around encouraging the young braves, and the savages under Roman Nose formed in line and prepared to surround the island.

Seeing that the little garrison was stunned by the heavy fire of the dismounted Indians, and rightly judging that now, if ever, was the proper time to charge them, Roman Nose and his band of mounted warriors, with a wild, ringing war-whoop, echoed by the women and children on the hills, started forward. On they came, presenting to the brave men who awaited the charge a most superb sight. Brandishing their guns, echoing back the cries of encouragement of the women and children on the surrounding hills, and confident of victory, they rode bravely and recklessly to the assault. Soon they were within range of the rifles of their friends, and, of course, the dismounted Indians had to slacken their fire for fear of hitting their own warriors. This was the opportunity for the scouts, and they were not slow to sieze upon it. "Now!" shouted Forsyth. "Now!" echoed Beecher, McCall and Grover, and the scouts, springing to their knees and casting their eyes coolly along the barrels of their rifles, opened on the advancing savages as deadly a fire as the same number of men ever yet sent forth from an equal number of rifles.

Unchecked, undaunted, on dashed the warriors; steadily rang the clear, sharp reports of the rifles of frontiersmen. Roman Nose, the chief, is seen to fall dead from his horse; then Medicine Man is killed, and for an instant the column of braves, now within ten feet of the scouts, hesitates—falters. A ringing cheer from the scouts, who perceive the effect of their well-directed fire, and the Indians begin to break and scatter in every direction, unwilling to rush to a hand-to-hand fight with the men who, outnumbered, yet know how to make such effective use of their rifles. A few more shots from the frontiersmen, and the Indians are forced back beyond range, and their first attack ends in defeat. Forsyth turns to Grover and anxiously inquires: "Can they do better than that, Grover?" "I have been on the Plains, General, since a boy and never saw such a charee as that before. I think they have done their level best," was the reply. "All right," says Sands, "Then we are good for them."

Though repulsed, the fire was kept up by the Indians, and night found General Forsyth, with his trusted lieutenant Beecher dead by his side, his surgeon Morus mortally wounded, and out of fifty-one men twenty-three killed and wounded, his supplies exhausted, his medicine stores captured and his command one hundred and ten miles from the nearest post. Two men were sent out under the cover of night for reinforcements; in the morning the fight was resumed, and on the third day, after trying to accomplish by stratagem what they failed to do by open warfare, the main body of the Indians withdrew. In the meantime the besieged men, having only horse flesh for food, managed to protect themselves and look to the wounded.

By the sixth day they were reduced to eating the putrid flesh of the decomposing horses, which they tried to render more palatable by rubbing with gunpowder, and the wounds of the men became infested by maggots and showed gangrene. The situation was desperate. On the morning of the next day the dark cloud on the horizon dissolved into reinforcements: the strong men shouted, the wounded lifted their fevered forms, and in their delirium echoed their comrades' hurrahs. When Col. Carpenter reached the island he found General Forsyth affecting, though with indifferent success, to read an old novel found in a saddlebag, keeping up bravely his reputation for making the best of things, and the men plucky to the last. Of this engagement General Austin says:

"In all its details, and with all its attending circumstances, remembering that Forsyth's party, including himself, numbered, all told, but fifty-one men, and that the Indians numbered about seventeen to one, this fight was one of the most remarkable and at the same time successful contests in which our forces on the plains have ever been engaged; and the whole affair, from the moment the first shot was fired, until the beleaguered party was finally relieved by Col. Carpenter's command, was a wonderful exhibition of daring courage, stubborn bravery, and heroic endurance under circumstances of greatest peril and exposure."

## The Elephant Dying Out.

Somewhere in the marvellous yarns of Sindbad, the sailor, contrived for the benefit of the all-puissant Haroun Alraschid, and Giaffer his vizeer, is an account of the burying place of the elephants. Sindbad, surrounded by the monstrous brutes, has scaled a tree, in which he is beseiged for seven days and seven nights; on the eighth day an old bull, the "rogue" of the herd rends the tree up by the roots, and Sindbad falling headlong to the ground, judges it is the safest course to feign death. The elephant, disdaining to wreak its vengeance upon a lifeless enemy, picks the old sailor up and quietly carries him to the burial place of the tribe—a hill some miles in circuit surrounded by impenetrable forests, and thickly covered with the bones and tusks of generation after generation of "the brute which bears between its eyes the serpent of a hand." Sindbad, with commendable prudence, continued to counterfeit death until not a elephant was in sight; and then, with an alacrity equally commendable, loads a raft with picked tusks, makes his way with them to Bagdad, and so finds himself once again a rich man.

Modern research has gone far to rehabilitate the credit of Sindbad the Sailor. We know that the long narrative of the seven voyages is no idle fairy tale, but that it embodies the genuine tradition of the old navigators, such as Hanno, and that its main facts are substantially accurate; the Valley of Diamonds actually exists in Ceylon; the great rukh once built its nest in Madagascar, and flapped its monstrous wings to and fro between the island and the mainland; and there is good ground to believe, that the tale of the great burial-place of the elephant race is no mere fable, but that high up in the table-land of Central Africa, on the further side of Tanganyika, in districts where the white man's foot has never yet trod, ivory is to be found as plentifully as in the fossil beds of Siberia, whence are dug up the large mammoth tusks that furnish nine-tenths of the raw material operated upon by our London ivory turners. Indeed, it would almost seem as if the energy of the Zanzibar merchants had at length found a way to Sindbad's charmed hill.

Within the last year the importation has doubled itself. Whence came all these tusks? Has the Valhalla of Sindbad been actually discovered, and do the chiefs whose huts cluster around Tanganyika, and under the shadow of the Mountain of the Moons, know of a veritable Tom Tiddler's ground where ivory can be picked up, as in Siberia it can be dug up by the ton, or does each pair of tusks that finds its way to England represent a slaughtered elephant, and is a war of extermination being waged, the ultimate effect of which must be to render the huge brute as extinct as the dinoris itself?

The latter, we fear, is the true answer. The elephant, like the whale is dying out. In India, he is becoming almost as rare as the red deer in England. The hunters have driven him further and further inland; unless something be done to protect him; he will before long become, on the main continent at any rate, altogether extinct, and Sahib will have to import his elephants from Birmah and Ceylon, much as we in England import our horses from Ireland, and our oxen from any country that will send them to us in sufficient numbers and of sufficient size and strength.—*English paper.*

## The Bible with Pins in it.

It was an old Bible, a family Bible, a well-worn Bible—the Bible of an old lady, who had read it, and walked by it, and prayed over it, for a long life time. As she grew older and older her sight began to fail, and she found it hard to find her favorite verses. But she could not live without them; so what did she do? She stuck a pin in them, one by one, and after her death they counted one hundred and sixty-eight. When people went to see her she would open her Bible, and, feeling over the page after her pin, would say: "Read there," or "Read here;" and she knew pretty well what verse was stuck by that pin, and what by this pin. She could say of her precious Bible, "I love thy commandments above gold, yea, above fine gold. They are sweeter to me than honey and the honey-comb."—*Selected.*

## The Mountain Meadows Massacre.

### An Old Tragedy Revived.

No great dependence can be put in the popular adage, "Murder will out." On the contrary, the mystery that enshrouds a great many murders is never penetrated, and all the guilty actors perish and carry the dreadful secret to the grave. For a long time it was supposed that the particulars of the bloody tragedy at "Mountain Meadows" would never be known, and no one for a moment imagined that any of the murderers would be brought to justice.—Although there was a great deal of excitement throughout the country when the atrocious massacre was first announced, in the long years that intervened the tragic story had been almost forgotten. The arrest of one of the principal actors in the affair has revived the recollection of the "Mountain Meadows massacre," and recalled the melancholy fate of its victims.

In the month of September, 1858, a party of emigrants en route for California left Salt Lake City, and proceeded in a southerly direction, intending to enter the State by way of San Diego. The party consisted of families from the Western States, who intended making a permanent settlement in California. They had large herds of cattle and horses with them, and also a considerable stock of domestic goods. One luxurious family was taking a piano to their new home on the Pacific slope. There were about one hundred and fifty persons in the train, more than half of whom were women and children. Their teams and herds were supposed to be worth more than $300,000.—Some of their cattle were of improved breeds, and when the herds were dispersed some of them found their way to the farms of opulent Mormons, and became the progenitors of a remarkably fine race of cattle, to which the scene of the massacre has given a name. When the caravan arrived at Mountain Meadows, on the borders of the "Ninety-mile Desert," a halt was made and the party went into camp, intending to rest a few days before beginning the wearisome journey across the barren plain. The Indians and Mormons looked with covetous eyes upon the fine teams, the well-bred cattle and the valuble goods with which the wagons were laden. Just as in these times, when a band of ruffians are anxious to commit a dastardly outrage, they trump up some charge against their intended victims; so these murderous Mormons attempted to justify the atrocious work which they had in contemplation by saying that the emigrants had acted in a riotous manner as they passed through the country; that they had robbed hen-roosts and despoiled orchards, and worse still, they had named one of their bulls "Heber" and another "Brigham" intending by these jocose appellations to bring the two Mormon Elders, Heber Smith and Brigham Young, into contempt and ridicule. They further said that the emigrants had poisoned a certain spring, with intent to injure the Mormons and their animals, but United States officers visited this spring afterward and gave it as their opinion that a barrel of arsenic would have been washed away in a minute and left no trace of its presence, so strong was the flow of water. But these stories had their effect, and when the emigrants went into camp at Mountain Meadows a hostile band of ruffians, composed of Mormons and Indians, commanded by John Doyle Lee, a Mormon Bishop, was hanging on their rear, ready to begin an indiscriminate massacre. The assault was deferred till darkness had set in, and then the cowardly assassins, creeping up within rifle shot, began to pick the men off as they stood at the camp fires. The emigrants finding that they were attacked made barricades of their wagons and held their position for two or three days. Then the assailing party made a charge, captured the camp and killed every man and woman in the party. The lives of a few small children were spared but no adult survivor was left to tell the tale.

For many months it was not known what had become of these emigrants. Their friends who had preceded them to California were alarmed at their non-arrival, and those who saw them set out from their homes in the States could hear nothing of their fate.

After a while some of the Mormons who had participated in the affair became conscience-stricken and began to make confessions. A Mormon school teacher, lost his mind brooding over the terrible work in which he had been engaged, and blurted out the whole story in his insane ravings, but he was not a competent witness. When the Mormons could no longer conceal the horrible fact of the massacre they put the whole blame on the Indians, and stoutly maintained that no Mormon had anything to do with it. In 1859 a detachment of United States soldiers visited the scene of the massacre, gathered up the bones of the victims and buried them. There was even then some whispered suspicions implicating certain prominent Mormons in the crime, but as Brigham Young had at that time complete control of the grand juries of the United States Court, no indictments were found. About four years ago a Mormon Bishop named Philip Smith left Utah and went to Nevada, where he made an affidavit before a magistrate, giving a full account of the massacre, and mentioning the names of prominent Mormons who had participated therein, among others that of Bishop John Doyle Lee. Brigham Young becoming alarmed at these revelations, called a council of his elders, and John Doyle Lee was deposed from his ecclesiastical office and excommunicated from the church. It is said, however, that Young knew all about Lee's connection with the affair from the first, and that he was acting as a major of Mormon militia when the attack was made, when it was over sent a full report to Brigham Young, who was then Governor of Utah Territory and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. At the time Lee was expelled from the church he had eighteen wives and sixty-two children. He took a few of his wives, fled to Arizona, and started a small patriarchal establishment in a natural stronghold on the Colorado river, where for four years he remained unmolested. His wives resided at different places within thirty or forty miles of each other, and it was while he was visiting one of these, who resided a little beyond the limits of his fortress, that he was captured by a Deputy United States Marshal. He is now in jail awaiting trial for murder.

## A Poachers' Fight.

On Oct. 24 the keepers and watchers upon Foxley, the estate of the Rev. Mr. Davenport, near Hereford, England, met an armed band of poachers just as they were leaving the preserves with their booty of hares and pheasants. Preece, the head keeper, called upon the poachers to stand and deliver up their game, which they refused to do, aod commenced throwing stones at the keepers. The latter then closed, upon which the poachers pointed fowling pieces at the breasts of their opponents.—Preece being determined, if possible, to effect a capture, closed upon them, but he was shot in the elbow, and another keeper received a charge in the knees. Preece, being armed, thereupon shot in the head the poacher who fired the first gun, and he fell, but was rescued by his comrades from the keepers. A regular fight ensued, during which the poachers fired seven shots.—The poacher who was shot was, while being supported by his fellows, knocked down by a stone thrown by a watcher. After a hand-to-hand fight, the poachers beat the keepers and carried off their wounded men. Four keepers hastened to Hereford for assistance of the police, and two men, named Lloyd and Williams, were in the course of the morning apprehended on suspicion. The whereabouts of the wounded poacher has not been discovered.

## Platinum.

Russia is the chief producer of platinum, "white gold," as it is sometimes called, though the last year's product of this precious and useful metal did not much exceed four thousand pounds. The most important diggings are near Bogoslewsk, Miask New. Jansk and Nischni Taglsk, in the Ural mountains; and it appears that in 1868, 1869, and 1870, from 494,000, 367,000, and 263,000 tons of sand, 6,675, 7,770 and 6,455 pounds of raw platinum, were returned respectively. The metal contains always some other substance, such as palladium, rhodium, iridium, gold, copper, iron, etc. The raw metal is almost entirely sold to England and Paris at a price of about seventy dollars per pound of pure metal. After being suitably refined it is worked up into various manufactured articles, including chemical apparatus. It is the most ductile of all metals, and as malleable as gold, while its infusibility is remarkable, yielding only to the highest heat reached by chemical furnaces.

☞ Prussia is preparing for another meal off one of the German States. This time the Duchy of Brunswick furnishes the dish. The present Duke is the last of his line, and with his death the ducal house of Brunswick becomes extinct. He is a bachelor and is now in his sixty-ninth year. By treaty it is provided that the German Emperor shall nominate the regent upon the death of the Duke. It will then be found very easy for Prussia to absorb the little country, regent and all. The people are getting alarmed at the prospect and are endeavoring to persuade the Duke to marry. A daughter of the ex-King of Hanover is the unfortunate woman named in connection with the match.

☞ How to discourage the Perquisite System. Never buy anything of anybody.

# Young Folks' Column.

## The Guinea Pig.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "LILLIPUT LEVEE."

"Oh, I never would be a guinea-pig, never!
  They have so little brains!"—
The guinea-pig sprang, and wasn't it clever?
  He hid in the raspberry canes.

They scratched their fingers, they taxed their wits,
  To get the guinea-pig out;
They nearly laughed themselves to fits,
  To see him run about.

The old and the young, the patient, the bold,
  Were in that companie;
But the guinea-pig baffled the young and the old,
  And merrily scampered he.

You thought you had him, but oh, mistake!
  You grappled a lump of mould—
The guinea-pig stuck to the raspberry brake,
  As hath before been told.

"Oh, make me into a guinea-pig, make,
  And never mind what I said;
For then I can hide in the raspberry brake,
  When it's time to go to bed."
—*Good Things.*

## The Ant's Monday Dinner.

BY HARRIET HUNT.

How did I know what the ants had for dinner last Monday? Ha, it is odd that I should have known, but I'll tell you how it happened.

I was sitting under a big pine-tree, high up on a high hill-side. The hill-side was more than seven thousand feet above the sea, and that is higher than many mountains which people travel hundreds of miles to look at. But this hill-side was in Colorado, so there was nothing wonderful in being so high up. I had been watching the great mountains with snow on them, and the great forests of pine-trees,—miles and miles of them,—so close together that it looks as if you could lie down on their tops and not fall through; and my eyes were tired with looking at such great, grand things, so many miles off: so I looked down on the ground where I was sitting, and watched the ants which were running about everywhere, as busy and restless as if they had the whole world on their shoulders.

Suddenly I saw, under a tuft of grass, a tiny yellow caterpillar, which seemed to be crawling along in a very strange way. Soon I saw an ant seize hold of him and begin to drag him off. The caterpillar was three times as long as the ant, and his body was more than twice as large round as the biggest part of the ant's body.

"Ho! ho! Mr. Ant," said I, "you needn't think you're going to be strong enough to drag that fellow very far."

Why, it was about the same thing as if you or I should drag off a heifer, kicking and struggling for dear life all the time; only that the heifer hasn't half so many legs to catch hold of things with as the caterpillar had. Poor caterpillar! how he did try to get away! But the ant never gave him a second's time to take a good grip of anything; and he was cunning enough, too, to drag him on his side, so that he couldn't use his legs very well. Up and down, and under and over stones and sticks; in and out of tufts of grass; up to the very top of the tallest blades, and then down again, over gravel and sand, and across bridges of pine-needles from stone to stone; backward all the way,—but for all I could see, just as swiftly as if he were going head-foremost,—ran that ant, dragging the catterpillar after him. I watched him very closely, thinking, of course, he must be making for his house. Presently, he darted up the trunk of the pine-tree.

"Dear me!" said I, "ants don't live in trees! What does this mean!

The bark of the tree was all broken and jagged, and full of seams twenty times as deep as the height of the ant's body. But he did'nt mind; down one side and up the other he went. They must have been awful chasms to him; and to the poor caterpillar too, tor their sharp edges caught and tore his skin, and doubled him up a dozen ways in a minute. And yet the ant never once stopped or went a bit slower. I had to watch very closely, not to lose sight of him altogether. I began to think that he was merely trying to kill the caterpillar; that, perhaps, he did'nt mean to kill him, after all. Perhaps he was merely a gentlemanly sportsman ant, out on a frolic. How did I know but some ants might hunt caterpillars, just as some men hunt deer, for fun, and not at all because they need food? If I had been sure of this I would have spoiled Mr. Ant's sport for him very soon, you may be sure, and set the poor caterpillar free. But I never heard of an ant's being cruel; and if it were really for dinner for his family that he was working so hard, I thought he ought to be helped and not hindered. Just then my attention was diverted from him by a sharp cry overhead. I looked up, and there was an enormous hawk, sailing round in circles, with two small birds flying after him, pouncing down on his head, and then darting away, and all the time making shrill cries of fright and hatred. I knew very well what that meant. Mr. Hawk also was out trying to do some marketing for his dinner; and he had had his eye on some little birds in their nest; and there were the father and mother birds driving him away. You wouldn't have believed two such little birds could have driven off such a big creature as the hawk, but they did. They seemed to fairly buzz around his head as flies do round a horse's head, and at last he just gave up and flew off so far that he vanished in the blue sky, and the little birds came skimming home again into the wood.

"Well, well," said I, "the little people are stronger than the big ones, after all! Where has my ant gone?"

Sure enough! It hadn't been two minutes that I had been watching the hawk and the birds, but in that two minutes the ant and the caterpillar had disappeared. At last I found them—where do you think? In a fold of my water-proof cloak, on which I was sitting! The ant had let go of the caterpillar and was running round and round him, perfectly, bewildered; and the caterpillar was too near dead to stir. I shook the fold out, and as soon as the cloth lay straight and smooth, the ant fastened his nippers in the caterpillar again and started off as fast as ever. I suppose if I could have seen his face, and had understood the language of ants' features, I should have seen plainly there, "Dear me, what sort of a country was that I tumbled into, so frightfully black and smooth? By this time the caterpillar had had the breath well knocked out of his body, and was so limp and helpless that the ant was not afraid of his getting away from him. So he stopped a second now and then to rest. Sometimes he would spring on the caterpillar's back, and stretch himself out there, sometimes he would stand still on one side and look at him sharply, keeping one nipper on his head. All the time, though, he was working steadily in one direction; he was headed for home now, I felt very certain. It astonished me very much at first, that none of the ants he met took any notice of him; they all went on their own way, and never took so much as a sniff at the caterpillar. But pretty soon I said to myself:

"You stupid woman, not to suppose that ants can be as well behaved as people! When you passed Mr. Jones yesterday, you didn't peep into his market-basket, nor touch the big cabbage he had under his arm."

Presently, the ant dropped the caterpillar, and ran on a few steps—I mean inches—to meet another ant who was coming toward him. They put their heads close togeher a second. I could not hear what they said, but I could easily imagine, for they both ran quickly back to the caterpillar, and one took him by the head and the other by the tail, and then they lugged him along finely. It was only a few steps, however, to the ant's house. That was the reason he happened to meet this friend just coming out. The door was a round hole in the ground, about as big as my little finger. Several ants were standing in the door-way, watching these two come up with the caterpillar. They all took hold as soon as the caterpillar was on the door-step, and almost before I knew he was fairly there, they had tumbled him down, heels over head, into the ground, and that was the last I saw of him.

The oddest thing was, how the ants came running home from all directions. I don't believe there was any dinner-bell rung, though there might have been one too fine for my ears to hear; but in less than a minute, I had counted thirty-three ants running down that hole. I fancied they looked as hungry as wolves.

I had a great mind to dig down into the hole with a stick, and see what become of the caterpillar. But I thought it wasn't quite fair to take the roof off a man's house to find out how he cooks his beef for dinner; so I sat still awhile, and wondered whether they would lay him out straight on the floor and all stand in rows each side of him and nibble across, and whether they would leave any for Tuesday; and then I went home to my own dinner.

## Wanted It.

If there is a man, says an exchange, so heartless and gruff that he doesn't love children, his stony ventricles would have been softened had he stood on Vine street and seen and heard a sweet little cherub of three bright summers weep and howl and pound its little buggy with its little footsie tootsies, and yell and ramp and rare and call names and bite and squeal and shriek and sob and screech, because they wouldn't give it a big railroad sign, ninety feet long, to play with.

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We have many old agents at work for us who have made canvassing for books, papers, etc., their business for years, and they all report that they can make much more money at work for us than at anything else. Our prices are so low that all can afford to purchase, and therefore the pictures sell at sight at almost every house. New beginners do as well as agents who have had large experience, for our beautiful subjects and low prices are appreciated by all. To make large sales everywhere, all an agent has to do is to show the pictures from house to house. Don't look for work elsewhere until you have seen what great inducements we offer you to make money. We have not space to explain all here, but send us your address, and we will send full particulars, free, by mail. Don't delay, if you want profitable work for your leisure hours, or for your whole time. Now is the favorable time to engage in this business. Our pictures are the finest and most pleasing in this country, and are endorsed by all the leading papers, including the New York *Herald*. Those who cannot give the business their entire attention, can work up their own localities and make a handsome sum without ever being away from home over night. Let all who want pleasant, profitable employment, without risking capital, send us their addresses at once, and learn all about the business for themselves. Please state what paper you saw this advertisement in.

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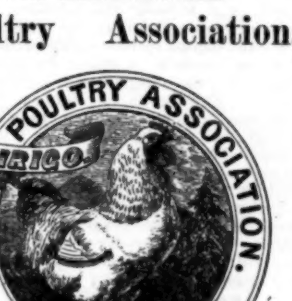
Second Annual Exhibition

—OF THE—

MAINE

Poultry Association.



This Association will hold its Second Annual Exhibition at

CITY HALL, Portland, Me.,

—ON—

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 12, 13, 14 and 15, 1875.

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ARE OFFERED IN PREMIUMS!!

Music by the Band each evening.
The Hall will be opened from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.
Entries for competition close January 9, 1875.
Entry Blanks can be obtained on application to the Secretary.

Arrangements will be made with Railroad and Express Companies for reduced fares and rates, of which due notice will be given.

Per order of the Directors,
6t1 FREDERICK FOX, Secretary.

KeroseneBurner

WITHOUT A CHIMNEY.

ONE Pint of the cheapest Kerosene Oil burns 18 hours with the new burner, and gives more blaze than one that has to have a chimney. The doing away with chimneys will be enough to make the

NEW BURNER POPULAR.

As it is coming cold weather, lamp chimneys will be cracking all the time. Do not waste your time cleaning chimneys and cutting your hands, but buy the new Burner. There are two sizes, one of which will fit any lamp.

☞The common house lamp burner is 50 cts. Sample sent by mail in a box on receipt of 60 cts., to any address.

Ladies and Gentlemen wanted to canvass every town and city. One or more can be sold at almost every house. Send for sample. For further particulars inquire of or address

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☞Gen. Ag't for N. H., Me. & Mass. East of Boston.

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Published Quarterly.——JANUARY NUMBER just issued, and contains over 100 PAGES, 500 ENGRAVINGS, descriptions of more than 500 of our best Flowers and Vegetables, with Directions for Culture, COLORED PLATE, etc. ——The most useful and elegant work of the kind in the world.——Only 25 cents for the year. Published in English and German.

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Nason & Co.

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FIRST FLOOR:

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| Shirts and Drawers, 45 cts. | Former Price, 65 cts. |
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| Cloth Back Gloves, 50 cts. | Former Price, 75 cts. |
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FORMER PRICE, $2.00.

Great Bargains in Flannel Shirts.

Clothing Department.

SECOND FLOOR:

Men's Overcoats:

Heavy Winter Overcoats, $6.00. Blue Chinchilla Beaver, wide binding, $10. Brown Chinchilla, Velvet Binding, $14. All Wool Blue Beaver, $15. All Wool Blue Beaver, $16. All Wool Brown Beaver, $18. Very fine Wool Black Beaver, $18.

Very choice styles of fine Custom made Overcoats, $25 and $30.

Boys' Sack Overcoats, $4 to $10.
Boys' Cape Overcoats, $6 to $12.
Boys' Suits, $5 to $12.

MENS' SUITS.

All Wool Double Breasted Sack Suits, $14.
Handsome Fancy Cassimere Suits, $20.
Fine Custom Made Suits, $30 to $37.

LARGE STOCK OF PANTS,

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What we aim to do is *not* to see how cheap an article we can sell, but *how good an article at a stated price.* It is for the interest of all to call and see our goods before making any purchases in this line.

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R. W. BLACK,
Attorney at Law and Claim Agent.
Augusta, Maine. tf3

## Probate Notices.

KENNEBEC COUNTY.....*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of Nov., 1874.*

CHARLES B. CATES, Administrator, on the estate of David Robinson, late of Vassalboro', in said County, deceased, having presented his first account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively, prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the same should not be allowed. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

ATTEST: CHARLES HEWINS, *Register.* 53

KENNEBEC COUNTY.....*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of November,* 1874.

SAMUEL G. HALL, Executor of the last will and testament of Luther Hall, late of Litchfield, in said County, deceased, having presented his first account of administration of the estate of said deceased for allowance.

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

H. K. BAKER, *Judge*

Attest: CHARLES HEWINS, *Register* 53

KENNEBEC COUNTY.....*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of November* 1874.

A CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of Joseph Knowles, late of Manchester, in said county, deceased, having been presented for probate:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December, next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved and allowed, as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest: CHARLES HEWINS, *Register.* 53

KENNEBEC COUNTY.....*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of November,* 1874.

CHRISTIAN MILLS, widow of John Mills, late of Belgrade, in said County, deceased, having presented her application for allowance out of the personal estate of said deceased:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of Dec., next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest: CHARLES HEWINS, *Register.* 53

THE MAINE FARMER.

Published every Saturday Morning

—BY—

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